

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP

Website: www.saintedmunds.net

Parish Office: Phone: 020 8650 0970

Email: beckenham@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Steve Wymer, Parish Priest: stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk (020 8650 3390)

Fr Andrew Bishop: andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Boniface Arapa: bonifacearapa@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Séan Murphy: seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk (07960 958 441)

Safeguarding: safeguardingSG3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk (Yvonne Epale)

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver: sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com
(020 8313 3915)

Sunday 8 February 2026 Yr A

The Retiring Collection this weekend is for Living Well.

FROM ZEBRA CROSSINGS TO REFORMING THE IMMIGRATION SYSTEM

Last Thursday I had an interesting chat over coffee with Peter Brierley, Assistant Director of Citizens UK and Lead Organiser of London Citizens. Founded in 1989 Citizens UK claim to be 'the UK's biggest, most diverse and most effective people powered alliance' campaigning for numerous and various causes such as zebra crossings on dangerous roads, a decent living wage and reforming the immigration system. To date, they have 600 organisations involved and 4,000 community leaders trained in building a better and fairer society. Since its foundation hundreds of campaigns have been won, a success rate they hope will continue. You may be interested to know that the very basis and core of Citizens UK are Catholic Social Teaching principles. Recently before Christmas members of the organisation met with Pope Leo in Rome. Later this month or in March I hope Peter will come and speak at the Sunday Masses. I will keep you posted. – Father Steve

PANCAKES

On Sunday 15 February after the 9.30 Mass we will be serving pancakes in the Hall.

There will be sprinkles and all sorts of goodies to add deliciousness to them so we hope to see lots of our younger parishioners coming over to enjoy them.

A SAFE PLACE TO LAND

The Landings team offers a non-judgemental forum to help you to reconnect with the Catholic faith. Lay-led meetings are accepting, confidential and enriching for all who take part.

The next Programme begins in March.

For more information contact Andrew at:
LandingsBeckenham@gmail.com

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

Wednesday 11 February

7.45 pm Praise and Worship

8.00 pm Holy Mass (Celebrant Fr Boniface Arapa)

Followed by Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament with prayer and praise

10.00 pm Evening concludes

Printer We currently have no working photocopier or large format printer in the office. Please make alternative arrangements if you usual rely on us for printing. Thanks for your patience and understanding.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDIES

You are warmly invited to join the Lent 2026 Bible Studies, a free, six-week journey presented live online. We will lead you through an in-depth exploration of the six Lenten Sunday Gospels.

Starts: Tues 17th February at 7.00pm

Six consecutive Tuesdays: 17 Feb, 24 Feb, 3 Mar, 10 Mar, 17 Mar, 24 Mar at 7-8:15 pm.

There is no charge. **LIVE** on You Tube

Registration: comeandsee.org/lent26

We hope to see you online.

Mauro & Janet Iannicelli

Come & See Catholic Formation Ministries

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

A female parishioner, is seeking to rent temporary accommodation for Friday to Sunday nights. This should only be for a month or so. She has experience as a carer and would be happy to assist in return. Please contact the Parish Office on 020 8650 0970.

CONFIRMATION

This is open to all St Edmund's young people who are currently in Year 9 or above. The deadline is 13 February. Please register here: <https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/events/aclyhblc>

ST EDMUND'S BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

When someone we love dies, it's natural to want to talk, share memories and reflect on our loss. Family and friends may offer comfort, but sometimes those around us may not fully understand what we're going through.

The **St Edmund's Bereavement Support Group** is a kind, safe, and understanding space for those grieving. In a warm and welcoming environment, parishioners can meet others experiencing loss, share their feelings, and talk about practical challenges that can feel overwhelming. There is no pressure to speak – simply being among others can bring reassurance. For those who wish to share, there is always a listening ear. This supportive group is open to all, regardless of faith. We run three groups a year, meeting weekly for six weeks. A lovely quality of this group is the genuine friendship and mutual support that often grows among those who come together through shared loss.

If you would like to know more, please take a leaflet from the shelf near the Anniversary Book at the back of the Church, or
email: beckenhambsq@rcaos.org.uk

MASSES

Sun 8 Feb	Fifth Sunday
6.00 pm VIGIL	Betty Stephens RIP
8.00 am	For the people
9.30 am	Mary & Eileen RIP
11.00 am	Wellbeing of Chidolue & Nwosu
5.30 pm	Ints of the Pinkett Family

Mon 9 Feb	Feria
10.00 am	Mary Totterdell RIP
Noon	Requiem of Bernadette N'Dormadingar

Tues 10 Feb	St Scholastica
10.00 am	Cathy May No Adoration

Wed 11 Feb	Feria
10.00 am	Dec'd members of the Lennon Family No Adoration
11.30 am	Funeral Service for Jean Cookman
8.00 pm	Charismatic Mass in Hall

Thurs 12 Feb	Feria
10.00 am	Ints of Sr Pat Devine
6.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration

Fri 13 Feb	Feria
10.00 am	Robert Halls RIP

Sat 14 Feb	Saints Cyril & Methodius
10.00 am	Cornelius Donnelly RIP (anniv)
6.00 pm VIGIL	Dan Walsh RIP

Sun 15 Feb	Sixth Sunday
8.00 am	Grace Friend-Pereira
9.30 am	For the people
11.00 am	Ints of Mary Bradford
5.30 pm	Rita Howard RIP

There is Adoration after morning Mass Monday to Saturday, unless otherwise announced.

RECONCILIATION

Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 – 11.00 am and 5.00 – 5.55 pm, and usually during Adoration

FLOWERS

The arrangements in the church this week are in memory of Marie Alford RIP who died in November and whose birthday would have been this Tuesday. Marie volunteered in the sacristy, brass leaning, flowers and with the Mothers' and Toddlers group. Please remember Marie in your prayers.

DIARY

February
8th Pancakes in the Hall after 9.30 Mass
9th Requiem of Bernadette N'Dormadingar at noon
11th Funeral Service for Mrs Joan Cookman at 11.30
26th Funeral of Angela Calder at 11.30

Please pray for the recently deceased:

Bernadette N'Dormadingar, Jean Cookman, Aurelio Spinola, Katie Ross, Teresa Cadogan, Kerry Skelton, Lady Victoria Okeke, Gertrude Uchenna Chigbo, Angela Calder, Margaret Lilley.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Berenice Goodwill, Anne Guinle, Cyril Fleming, Jeanette Whiting, Clive Parfitt, Lucienne Alphonse, Eamonn Murphy, Odette Shaw, Joanna & Dennis Duggan, Margaret Milan, Mary Leonard, Derek Crawford, Colette Woods, Carmen Roper, Marion Ryan, Eddie Griffin, Michael Lavender, Milagros Purvis.

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woollard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, James Creedon, Sarah-Marie Kench, Duncan, Grace, Nora Haugh, Linda Magness, Charles, Joyce Edwins, Chris Elgar, Rose Elgar, Maureen Pinkett, Catherine McLaughlin, Albie Houghton, Sean Lacey, Peter Antony Jones, Margaret Mattison, Elias Tchamba.

LENTEN SERVICES

Whilst it seems that we have just come out of the Christmas season, Easter is early this year and the season of **Lent** begins on **Ash Wednesday on February 18**.

Stations of the Cross and additional Masses in Lent

On Wednesday mornings, 10 am Mass will be followed by Stations of the Cross at 10.40am.

On Friday evenings there will be Stations of the Cross at 6:15 pm, followed by Mass at 7.00 pm.

Each week Stations of the Cross will be led by members of parish groups. Thank you to all of them for doing this. For those unable to attend there will be copies of the Way of the Cross at the back of the church so you can walk the way in your own time.

We can help you on your Lenten journey

With Lent almost upon us, have you considered what you may give up?

If you are considering giving up alcohol, we are happy to help; the hospitality committee will be collecting donations of unopened bottles (both alcoholic and non-alcoholic) at all Sunday Masses on the weekend of 21st-22nd February. These will be kept for the bottle stall at the Parish Spring Fair in May.

Trolleys will be at the back of Church at those masses to receive your donations! Thank you.

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Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver:

sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com (020 8313 3915)

Sunday 25 January 2026 Yr A

This Sunday there is a second collection for St Georges Cathedral

DO YOU KNOW THIS MAN?

In one of the Eucharistic prayers, soon after the consecration, the priest asks our Father to accept our offering of Christ's Body and Blood '*as once you were pleased to accept the gifts of your servant Abel the just, the sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith, and the offering of your high priest, Melchizedek, a holy sacrifice, a spotless victim.*'

We all know about Abel, and we all know about Abraham, but I expect that most of us are in the same boat as a parishioner who asked recently, 'Who is Melchizedek?' The answer is that, while we really don't know much about him, what little we do know makes him a towering figure in the holy scriptures.

He lived at the time of Abraham. God had told Abraham to leave his home in Ur (in modern-day Iraq), with Lot, his nephew, and with all their followers, and he led them 400 miles away, to Canaan, and told them to settle there (Genesis 12). However, Abraham and Lot became embroiled in local wars, during which Lot was captured. Abraham attacked Lot's captors and rescued his nephew, and on his return from the campaign he met with a local ruler, Melchizedek (Genesis: 14). We are told that Melchizedek was both king of Salem (Jerusalem) and 'a priest of God the Most High', though we are not told how he came to be either: his origins are a mystery. Melchizedek gives thanks to God for Abraham's conquest of their enemies, and he bestows his own blessing on Abraham. If there is a founding-event of Judaism, Melchizedek's blessing of Abraham has a good claim to be it, for it is after this that God confirms his promises to Abraham, assuring him that he will become the father of a great people and granting him the land of Canaan.

All very interesting, we might say, but what has it got to do with the Sacrifice of the Mass? Well, we can see the answer for ourselves in the last stained glass window on the left as we face the altar here in St Edmund's. It depicts a strange-looking figure, crowned, and richly vested, and he is carrying in one hand a loaf of bread and in the other a chalice of wine. The crown is the give-away, though: this is not a Christian priest or bishop: he's Melchizedek, and, like Abraham, he dates from 2000 years before Christ: his offering of bread and wine was part of the blessing and thanksgiving service for Abraham's victory (Genesis 14:18).

The events I have just outlined took place before the birth of Isaac, so well before Abraham had that sudden transformative realisation that there is no way that a loving God would want people to persist in the practice of human sacrifice. Can it be that, at the very outset of the Abrahamic faith, which we share, we see, in a shadowy form, a prefiguring of the Mass? Abraham must not sacrifice his son, because God will sacrifice his own; Abel's sacrifice of animals to God, which would become a fundamental part of Judaism, cannot take away sins.

After his meeting with Abraham, Melchizedek disappears completely from the Old Testament, except for a single mention in Psalm 109 (110). The Psalm is addressed to the Messiah, the longed-for and long-awaited priest-king, and it contains these words: '*You are a priest forever, a priest like Melchizedek of old.*' The Church sees in Melchizedek nothing less than a foretelling of the coming of the true Messiah, and of how, at Mass, all these centuries later, we will make Jesus' sacrifice truly present in our own lives. – Deacon Seán.

Are there any other shady characters or Catholic curios you'd like to read about in this newsletter? Email the parish office with your suggestions and one of the clergy team will do their best to demystify...

Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL SECOND COLLECTION 25TH JANUARY

For over half a century, St George's Cathedral has been the Mother Church of the Archdiocese of Southwark, home to 175 parishes and over 50,000 Roman Catholics. For many Catholics living and working across London and the South East of England, St George's has been a beacon of light.

Today, St George's Cathedral continues to attract thousands of worshippers and visitors each year, as well as serving a lively local parish community which proudly reflects the rich cultural and ethnic diversity of South London. The Cathedral frequently hosts important Diocesan and national celebrations.

There is a rich musical tradition, maintaining a choir of boys and men, as well as a girls' choir, both of which sing at Sunday Masses and on major feasts. In many respects, St George's Cathedral serves as a spiritual home and 'beehive' for Catholic evangelisation and mission.

St George's Cathedral is entirely reliant upon the generosity of its parishioners, volunteers and the Archdiocese of Southwark to keep its doors open. It does not receive Vatican or government funding, nor has an endowment to rely on. Your support can enable the Cathedral to remain open daily to those seeking a place of peace, prayer and worship. Thank you!

Donate Online: www.rcaos.org.uk/Cathedral

ST EDMUND'S BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

When someone we love dies, it's natural to want to talk, share memories and reflect on our loss. Family and friends may offer comfort, but sometimes those around us may not fully understand what we're going through.

The **St Edmund's Bereavement Support Group** is a kind, safe, and understanding space for those grieving. In a warm and welcoming environment, parishioners can meet others experiencing loss, share their feelings, and talk about practical challenges that can feel overwhelming. There is no pressure to speak – simply being among others can bring reassurance. For those who wish to share, there is always a listening ear. This supportive group is open to all, regardless of faith. We run three groups a year, meeting weekly for six weeks. A lovely quality of this group is the genuine friendship and mutual support that often grows among those who come together through shared loss.

If you would like to know more, please take a leaflet from the shelf near the Anniversary Book at the back of the Church, or email: beckenhambsq@rcaos.org.uk

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

Archbishop John Wilson will celebrate Mass for Racial Justice Sunday at St George's Cathedral on **Sunday 1 February at 10am**. Racial Justice Sunday is a time for the Church to pray, reflect and take action against racism, while celebrating the diversity of our Archdiocese. Everyone is invited to take part, and those who wish may wear national or cultural dress as a sign of unity and pride.

If you would like, please gather outside the cathedral at 9.45am to join the procession of national flags. After Mass, all are welcome to gather in Amigo Hall for refreshments — a chance to meet one another, share experiences and continue the conversation about faith and inclusion.

You are warmly encouraged to attend in person, but if you cannot make it you can watch the livestream through the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/fdmGwmESSql>

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Living Well are always looking for new volunteers to get involved - with foodbank, in our charity shop, in the cafe and kitchen, in pastoral care and in advocacy. If anyone is interested please email hello@livingwell.life or via www.livingwell.life/

Could you spare a few hours during the year to help **Mary's Meals**? They are looking for parish reps, volunteer speakers (training provided!) and help at events. Any little you can offer will make a huge difference to children in the world's poorest communities. Please contact Roy Peachey roy.peachey@marysmeals.org or 07593 447297 marysmeals.org.uk.

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

Wednesday 28 January in the Hall

7.45 pm Praise and Worship

8.00 pm Holy Mass

(Celebrant Fr David Gummett)

Followed by. Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament with healing ministry.

10.00 pm Evening concludes

CONFIRMATION

This is open to all St Edmund's young people who are in Year 9 or above in the school year from September 2026.

Please register using this link:

<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/events/>

SVP BECKENHAM

Our local St Vincent de Paul group (SVP) would like to thank all of those who helped out with the annual Christmas lunch held for parishioners in December. in a beautifully decorated hall. We welcomed 68 people into the hall with Christmas music in the background played by a quartet of cellists led by our own Richard. At other times we had background music by our pianist, Rose.

Guests enjoyed a 3-course lunch that was very well received. Ensuring that all dietary requirements were met was no mean task, and this was carefully executed by our kitchen team! To accompany all the food was an assortment of drinks – wines and non-alcoholic drinks.

To crown it all, 'Mini Vinnies' (young SVP members) from St Mary's Primary School sang Christmas carols and gave out handmade cards to all attendees. And not to forget other SVP members who were on hand on the day – Ben, Ian, Fiona, Pauline, Helena, John, and Rosemary.

Photos are on the noticeboard.

300 Club January winners

No 91—Ticcy Collings £25

No 71—Mary Lambeth £50

No 158—Francesca Fear £100

LOST PROPERTY

We have acquired rather a lot of lost property in the Parish Office, waiting to be reunited with its owners! Please take a look in the box in the narthex (porch) this week and reclaim any lost belongings, or the parish admin team will start wearing it ... (We will donate the rest to a charity shop).

ST BLAISE'S WELL, BROMLEY

Our annual walk to St Blaise's Well, Bromley, will be on Sunday, 1st February, and the Blessing of the Well, by the parish priest of St Joseph's, will take place at '2.30 pm.

Walkers should meet at 1.00 pm at the Mansion in Beckenham Place Park, but those seeking a shorter walk, avoiding Bromley Hill, may prefer to wait outside the Churchill Theatre at 2.10 pm. All should be appropriately clad and suitably shod. – Michael Elmer.

MEDITATION

Quiet Monday – 2nd Monday in the hall from 5-6pm
(see notice board)

Christian Meditation – 3/4/5 Monday in the hall from 5.30-6.20 pm except Bank Holidays

Please arrive promptly.

SUPPORT FOR MARRIAGES

Marriage and Family Life events organised for 2026 include:

Building a Better Marriage (BABM) a one-day event in different deaneries where couples can gain valuable insights into communication and the call of the Church to be married, helping husbands and wives to make their marriages better.

Sycamore Growing in Faith together (GIFT) for married and engaged couples is an ONLINE course, which has been developed in collaboration with the Southwark Marriage and Family Life team, consisting of four one hour-long sessions via Zoom

Rooted in Love – an online monthly meet up to hear a scripture reading and discuss ideas relevant to married Catholic couples / couples where one is RC

Details on noticeboard for dates and contact info.

Marriage Preparation residential weekend course 13 – 15 March 2026

The CHC's weekend marriage prep course is intended for couples who wish to engage more deeply with the Catholic vision for marriage. Structured around the elements of the marriage rite, couples will reflect deeply on foundational Scriptural texts to gain a deeper understanding of both the natural and Sacramental aspects of Matrimony. The weekend is framed by prayer, time for reflection personally and as a couple, group discussion and a social.

<https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/>

MASSES

Sun 25 Jan

8.00 am **Third Sunday**
9.30 am Intentions of the Hickey Family
11.00 am Ellen and John McGrath RIP
5.30 pm Muriel and Joe Briddock RIP
For the people
Noreen Dowling RIP (anniv) and
Katrina Fleming RIP (anniv)

Mon 26 Jan

10.00 am **Saints Timothy and Titus**

Thomas Walsh RIP

Tues 27 Jan

10.00 am **Feria**
Lilly Valles McKenzie and
deceased family members RIP

Wed 28 Jan

10.00 am **St Thomas Aquinas**
8.00 pm Frank Dyer RIP
Charismatic Mass in Hall

Thurs 29 Jan

10.00 am **Feria**
6.00 pm **CLAVER** Alfonso and Mariucca Nest RIP
Adoration

Fri 30 Jan

10.00 am **Feria**
Edwin Voss RIP

Sat 31 Jan

10.00 am **St John Bosco**
6.00 pm **VIGIL** Esther Browne RIP
Delisa and Crescenzo Panetta RIP

Sun 1 Feb

8.00 am **Fourth Sunday**
9.30 am Intentions of the O'Keefe family
11.00 am Ints of Michael Kearns and family
5.30 pm Margaret Paes RIP
For the people

Confessions are every Saturday from
10.30 – 11.00 am and 5.00 – 5.55 pm,
and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and
Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after
morning Mass from Monday to Saturday,
unless otherwise announced.

Please pray for the recently deceased: Fr James Hay
Sybille Clarke, Marie Benham, John O'Gorman,
Bernadette N'Dorma, Gerard Mulhall, Jean Cookman
Aurelio Spinola, Andre Delalandre.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Dr Eamon Fenton, Tom Gower, Cheryl
McGoldrick, Gibson Sikaleya, Frank Donagh, Alice
Appiah-Gyan, Thomas Bromell, Caroline Pearson, Bill
Boyd, Yvonne Harvey, Jason Du Haney, Richard Lee,
Brian Russell, Jim McNamara, Michael Akpenyi,
Catherine Jones

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woppard,
Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M
Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-
Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Margaret
Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, James
Creedon, Sarah-Marie Kench, Duncan, Grace, Nora
Haugh, Linda Magness, Charles, Teresa Cadogan, Joyce
Edwins, Chris Elgar, Rose Elgar, Maureen Pinkett,
Catherine McLaughlin, Albie Houghton, Katie Ross, Sean
Lacey, Peter Antony Jones

Liam Conlon MP will be discussing
How we address the rise of the far right with
charity **HOPE NOT HATE** at
St Georges Church, Beckenham
on Thursday 29 January.
Doors open: 5.30pm / Event: 6–7pm.
Booking is essential.
Please visit: <https://bit.ly/HOPEnotHateRSVP>
or email: liam.conlon.mp@parliament.uk
or scan the QR code at the back of the church.

The family of Beckenham's much loved street
cleaner Michael Dowler would like to invite those
who knew him to a memorial drink on **Saturday 21**
February at 1pm at Erin's – Beckenham High
Street. To give his family an idea of numbers
please let them know if you plan to attend by
dropping a message to N. S. Wibberley Funerals
beckenham@nswfunerals.com

RECONCILIATION

Christ entrusted the Church with a profound gift of
healing through the Sacrament of Penance and
Reconciliation. This sacrament restores our
relationship with God and the Church, strengthens
our conscience, and reminds us that 'In him we live
and move and have our being' (Acts 17:28).

It invites us not only to receive mercy but to share
it, echoing St Francis of Assisi's wisdom that 'It is in
pardoning that we are pardoned.' We encourage
our parishioners to make use of this important
sacrament, which is an encounter with God's
loving mercy.

DIARY

January

25 January – Second collection for St Georges
Cathedral

February

1 February – Racial Justice Sunday mass
St George's Cathedral, 10am

THANK YOU ROSEMARY

The clergy and all the parish staff would like to say
a big thank you to Rosemary for all she has done
over the last ten years. Her kindness, compassion
and thoughtfulness has been so very appreciated.
We wish her all the best.

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Fr Boniface Arapa: bonifacearapa@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Séan Murphy: seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk (07960 958 441)

Safeguarding: safeguardingSG3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk (Yvonne Epale)

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver:

sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com (020 8313 3915)

Sunday 18 January 2026 Yr A

This Sunday there is a
retiring collection for Pax Christi



MASS INTENTIONS

'When you offer a Mass intention, you are not "buying prayers." You are joining your love to the Sacrifice of Christ, asking that His saving grace be applied to a soul, a need, or a cause dear to your heart.' – *Anthony Okoloba*.

I came across this quotation recently by a Catholic Nigerian layman who posts on spiritual matters. On this at least, he struck a chord with me. The sacrifice of the mass is a concept that is not shared with Protestants, but the belief goes back to the earliest times. The Fathers of the Church saw the mass as a fulfilment of the prophecy of Malachi (1:11), " From the rising of the sun even to the going down..... and in every place there is a sacrifice and there is offered in my name a clean oblation." You might recognise this reference in Eucharistic Prayer 3, near the start.

We should understand that the saving sacrifice of Christ's death on the cross, is offered once and for ever (as Protestants remind us) but the Church believes the mass "makes present the one sacrifice of Christ the Saviour" (CCC 1330) for us in the here and now. That eternally significant moment on Calvary is made present to us in a tangible way.

And the Church has long taught that it makes present Christ's graces to both the living and the dead. When, in the 4th century, St Monica was dying a long way from home, she told her son St Augustine that he shouldn't worry about where she was buried as long as he "remembered her at the altar of the Lord." So it is right that we wish to have mass said for our loved ones, living or dead, so they are remembered at the altar of the Lord. After all, the mass is the greatest of prayers as it is the one that Jesus prayed on Calvary.

Yet, though at a Funeral or Requiem mass it is right that the deceased are mentioned in a special way, for other masses we recognise that the mass is also offered for the whole community. In the eucharistic prayer – whichever one the priest is using – we always pray for the Pope, Bishop, Church, and the living and the dead. Indeed, Eucharistic Prayer 1 talks about "this sacrifice of praise" we bring to God. The mass is also about our sacrifice we bring to join with the sacrifice of Christ, not that we are worthy by ourselves, but because everything is redeemed by His self-sacrifice that we are called to imitate.

In this sense, it is appropriate that we make an offering, or mass stipend, that we contribute. For a long time, mass stipends have been used to finance the clergy and to many, unfortunately, it seems rather like buying a sacrament. In some countries they pay clergy a fixed salary and all mass stipends go into a central pot. Personally, I would favour moving to such a system here too. – Fr Andrew.

300 Club

The 300 Club draw will take place this Saturday following the 6.00 pm mass.

St Catherine's Catholic School for Girls in Bexleyheath is seeking to appoint **Examination Invigilators** to support and guide students calmly during their exams. To apply, please visit **St Catherine's Catholic School – Support Staff Vacancies** online.

Retrouvaille helps marriages. Does your marriage need some help with communication and trust? Our online course can bring hope and healing to relationships.

Next date: **12th February 2026** (Last call!)
www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 07887 296983

CONFIRMATION 2026

To sign up, please fill out the application form at:
<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/events/aclyhb1c> (Places are limited so do it promptly!)

Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.

MASSES

Sun 18 Jan	Second Sunday
6.00 pm VIGIL	Delisa and Crescenzo Panetta RIP
8.00 am	Intention of the Ewings Family
9.30 am	For the people
11.00 am	Wellbeing of Cynthia Tochi Ngba
5.30 pm	Mary Totterdell RIP Eileen Sheehan RIP (1st anniv)
Mon 19 Jan	Feria
10.00 am	Eileen Kearns RIP
3.00 pm	Requiem for Chris Kelly
Tues 20 Jan	Feria
10.00 am	Pietro and Iolanda Muntoni RIP
4.00 pm	Week of Christian Unity Vespers
Wed 21 Jan	St Agnes Virgin and Martyr
10.00 am	Intentions of the Judge family
8.00 pm	Charismatic Mass in Hall (Celebrant Fr Kenneth Iwunna)
Thurs 22 Jan	Feria
10.00 am	Spiritual and physical wellbeing of Miss Tanvi Parmar
6.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration
Fri 23 Jan	Feria
10.00 am	Helene Lees RIP
Sat 24 Jan	St Francis de Sales
10.00 am	Gerald Baker RIP
6.00 pm VIGIL	Bruno Panetta RIP
Sun 25 Jan	Third Sunday
8.00 am	Intentions of the Hickey Family
9.30 am	Ellen and John McGrath RIP
11.00 am	For the people
5.30 pm	Noreen Dowling RIP (anniv) and Katrina Fleming RIP (anniv)
	Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 – 11.00 am and 5.00 – 5.55 pm, and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after morning Mass from Monday to Saturday, unless otherwise announced.

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from 5.30 – 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of each month and bank holidays. Please arrive promptly and observe the need for silence.

RECONCILIATION

Christ entrusted the Church with a profound gift of healing through the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. This sacrament restores our relationship with God and the Church, strengthens our conscience, and reminds us that 'In him we live and move and have our being' (Acts 17:28).

It invites us not only to receive mercy but to share it, echoing St Francis of Assisi's wisdom that 'It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.' We encourage our parishioners to make use of this important sacrament, which is an encounter with God's loving mercy.

We pray for all who have died:

Chris Kelly, Fr James Hay, Sybille Clarke, Marie Benham and John O'Gorman, Bernadette N'Dormadinger.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Eileen Sheehan, Tanya Clarke, Terry McGee, James O'Reilly, Baby William 'Wotsit' Pemberton, Maureen Finch, Linda Turp, Samuel Sana, Emily Edwards, Gerard Lovett, Patrick McInally, Monica Cronin, Michael O'Sullivan, Nikolaos Klokanos, Colm Byrne, Dr Alexander Uchwe, Michael Wright, Walter Grubb, Juana Chacaltana, Joan Salmon, Mary Callaghan, Katrina Fleming, Brigitte Savreux O'Driscoll, Sr Helen Carey FMA, Jean Cullen, Kathleen Phelan, Mabel Graves, Raymond Willis, John O'Hagan, Monica Hayland, Anne Lymbery and May McMahon.

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woppard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, James Creedon, Sarah-Marie Kench, Duncan, Grace, Nora Haugh, Linda Magness, Charles, Reggie Rock, Teresa Cadogan, Joyce Edwins, Chris Elgar, Rose Elgar, Maureen Pinkett, Catherine McLaughlin, Albie Houghton.

DIARY

January

Sunday 18 – Friday 23 – Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2026

February

1 February – Racial Justice Sunday mass
St George's Cathedral, 10am
2 February – Requiem for Marie Benham

Liam Conlon MP will be discussing **How we address the rise of the far right** with charity **HOPE NOT HATE** at **St Georges Church, Beckenham on Thursday 29**

January. Doors open: 5.30pm / Event: 6–7pm.
Booking is essential.

Please visit: <https://bit.ly/HOPEnothateRSVP>
or email: liam.conlon.mp@parliament.uk
or scan the QR code at the back of the church.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Churches Together in Beckenham is an opportunity to share with other Christians in fellowship.

Sunday 18th January 5.30pm: Choral Evensong
St George's Church, High Street, BR3 1AX

Monday 19th January 11am-2pm: Craft Afternoon
Beckenham Methodist Church, Bromley Road, BR3 5JE

Monday 19th January 8pm: Taizé Service
Beckenham Baptist Church, Elm Road, BR3 4JB

Tuesday 20th January 4pm: Evening Prayer
St Edmund's Church, Village Way, BR3 3NP

Wednesday 21st January 10.30am: Service of Holy Communion, St George's Church, High Street, BR3 1AX

Thursday 22nd January 9.30am-2pm: Green Bird Café
St John's Church, Eden Park Avenue, BR3 3JN

Friday 23rd January 9.00am: Morning Prayer
St Paul's Church, Brackley Road, BR3 1RB

Everyone Welcome! www.ctib.uk

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP

Website: www.saintedmunds.net

Parish Office: Phone: 020 8650 0970

Email: beckenham@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Steve Wymer, Parish Priest: stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk (020 8650 3390)

Fr Andrew Bishop: andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Boniface Arapa: bonifacearapa@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Seán Murphy: seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk (07960 958 441)

Safeguarding: safeguardingSG3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk (Yvonne Epale)

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver:

sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com (020 8313 3915)

Sunday 11 January 2026 Yr A

Next Sunday there will be a retiring collection for Pax Christi

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Happy New Year to you all.

Once again on behalf of the clergy and staff at St Edmund's I would like to express my heartfelt thanks for all the gifts and cards we've received over this Christmas Season and the kindness and support you have shown us throughout the year. Thanks indeed for your generous Christmas offerings for your priests.

You may recall Archbishop John's pastoral letter for the Solemnity of the Holy Family two weeks ago. Having reread it, I've selected one sentence and two longer passages for you to reflect on as we begin this year of 2026.

'In Christ, the radiant hope of God's love and mercy shines into every heart and family'.

'In the mystery of Christmas, the love of God took flesh and dwelt amongst us. How can we work together, co-responsibly, to help make that love real? How can we reach out and accompany those in need in our community: the housebound, the elderly, the bereaved, the isolated, the family new to the parish, and the person who sits alone at Mass? How can we strengthen what is already good amongst us: food banks, winter night shelters, parish support groups, care for prisoners, and school outreach?'

Today, we entrust our families, and our whole Archdiocese, to the Holy Family of Nazareth. Thank you to parents, grandparents, extended family and carers, for your patience and quiet sacrifices that bring the truths of the Holy Family to life. Thank you for your efforts to hand on our beautiful Catholic faith to your children. Thank you too, to our young people for your witness. None of us should ever be ashamed of the Gospel. Christ never diminishes life but enlarges it. Those who entrust themselves to him are never disappointed.

May God bless you all – Fr Steve.

CONFIRMATION 2026

Full information and enrolment details will be in next weekend's newsletter. Please sign up promptly as spaces are limited.

WELCOME & GOODBYE

We are delighted to welcome Michele to the parish office team and very much hope she enjoys her new role. Michele will be working with Barbara in the parish office and replaces Rosemary who retires next Friday – we wish her all the best.

MAKE A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION – JOIN THE CATENIANS!

Whether you are new to the parish or just interested in making new friends, you will be assured of a warm welcome at the Catenians.

The Catenians play an important role in strengthening Catholic communities. The Beckenham branch of the association meets once a month and organises various other social events throughout the year.

Our focus is on faith, friendship and family, and we offer the chance to meet fellow Catholics and their families from Beckenham, Hayes and beyond.

We also organise raffles to raise money for good causes, including St Christopher's Hospice and the Priest Training Fund of the Archdiocese of Southwark. If you would like to come to one of our meetings or find out more about the association, please phone Andy Holmes on 07890 008458 or email acncarriman@ntlworld.com.

Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.

MASSES

Sun 11 Jan	The Baptism of the Lord
6.00 pm VIGIL	Stewart, Elena and Sullivan families
8.00 am	Mary Totterdell RIP
9.30 am	For the people
11.00 am	Jane Morey RIP
5.30 pm	Anne Moys RIP & Alice Castle RIP
Mon 12 Jan	Feria
10.00 am	Brian Mulcahy RIP
Tues 13 Jan	Feria
10.00 am	Douglas Arthur RIP
Wed 14 Jan	Feria
10.00 am	Intentions of Jim Conner
8.00 pm	Charismatic Mass in Hall
Thurs 15 Jan	Feria
10.00 am	Eamon Walsh RIP
6.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration
Fri 16 Jan	Feria
10.00 am	Intentions of Bridie Sharpe
Sat 17 Jan	St Anthony, Abbot
10.00 am	Gerald Baker RIP
6.00 pm VIGIL	Delisa and Crescenzo Panetta RIP
Sun 18 Jan	Second Sunday
8.00 am	Intention of the Ewings Family
9.30 am	For the people
11.00 am	Wellbeing of Cynthia Tochi Ngba
5.30 pm	Mary Totterdell RIP

Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 – 11.00 am and 5.00 – 5.55 pm, and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after morning Mass from Monday to Saturday, unless otherwise announced.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

Church Hall, Wednesday 14 January
7.45pm Praise and Worship
8.00pm Holy Mass (Celebrant Fr Boniface Arapa)
Followed by Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament
10.00 pm Evening concludes.

Ambassadors for Christ:

A Catholic apologetics resource.

The Archdiocese of Southwark has launched an exciting project to provide evidence-based answers to questions such as "Is Jesus God?" or "does prayer work?". Ambassadors for Christ is designed to equip you with a deeper understanding, so you can confidently answer questions and be a joyful witness for the Lord Jesus and his Church. YouTube videos are posted each Monday, along with worksheets for parishes, schools, youth groups and families to use in faith formation. To engage in this exciting project, please visit: rcaos.org.uk/ambassadorsforchrist.

We pray for all who have died:

Mary Aileen Shannon, Chris Kelly, Giovanni Battista Collu and Fr James Hay

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Fabrizio Lanzetti, Frank Penston, John Goodwill, Bridget Obiageli Ilodigwe, Sr Laserian Fleming, Michael Fitzpatrick, Harry McGuigan, Jean Harrigan, Carol Williams, Kathleen Bryon, Agnes Burns, Leo Carroll, Nora Teresa Kidd, Ita Philomena Mary Smith, Sharon Oates, William Webster, Peggy Brown, baby Charlotte Mary Flannery, Geraldine Margaret Muir, Lourdes Ceniza

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woppard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, James Creedon, Sarah-Marie Kench, Duncan, Grace, Nora Haugh, Linda Magness, Charles, Reggie Rock, Teresa Cadogan, Joyce Edwins, Chris Elgar, Rose Elgar, Maureen Pinkett.

DIARY

January

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2026 runs from **Sunday 18 – Friday 23 January** (poster at the back of church has full details). This includes:
Tues 20 January – Vespers 4pm

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from 5.30 – 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of each month and bank holidays.
Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence.

ST EDMUND'S BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

When someone we love dies, it's natural to want to talk, share memories and reflect on our loss. Family and friends may offer comfort, but sometimes those around us may not fully understand what we're going through.

The **St Edmund's Bereavement Support Group** is a kind, safe, and understanding space for those grieving. In a warm and welcoming environment, parishioners can meet others experiencing loss, share their feelings, and talk about practical challenges that can feel overwhelming. There is no pressure to speak – simply being among others can bring reassurance. For those who wish to share, there is always a listening ear. This supportive group is open to all, regardless of faith. We run three groups a year, meeting weekly for six weeks.

A lovely quality of this group is the genuine friendship and mutual support that often grows among those who come together through shared loss.

If you would like to know more, please take a leaflet from the shelf near the Anniversary book at the back of the Church, or email: beckenhambsg@rcaos.org.uk

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Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Boniface Arapa - bonifacearapa@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk

Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardraos.org.uk

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915

sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com

Sunday 21 December 2025 Yr A



THIS NEWSLETTER IS A
DOUBLE ISSUE

A very happy Christmas to all

The Parish Office will be closed on Christmas Eve and will re-open on Monday 5 January. Emails will not be monitored over that period so if you need a priest urgently please call them direct or use the links on the Parish Office number. Fr Andrew's office phone has developed a fault. In case there is a delay in resolving this, it might be wise to email him.

Thank you to the organisers, the choirs and all who participated in our parish Advent Carol Service last Saturday. The singing in church and the socialising afterwards in the Hall is always an annual highlight for me. You will be pleased to hear we raised £614.42 for St Christopher's Hospice. Well done to one and all.

'Remember if Christmas isn't found in your heart, you won't find it under a tree'. A quote from Charlotte Carpenter, a country singer. This led me to reflect on how important the real meaning of Christmas is. Amidst all the joyful celebration I hope you have time for some quiet reflection during the Christmas Season. Perhaps this will help as a starter:

For us this day a Saviour is born, who is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:10

On behalf of the clergy and staff, I wish you a blessed and peaceful Christmas.

Fr Steve

FINAL PREPARATIONS FOR OUR CHRISTMAS MASSES

ALTAR SERVERS FOR CHRISTMAS

We are still in need of altar servers for our Christmas Masses. Please would parents email Deacon Sean if their son or daughter could serve at the Mass they are attending at Christmas.

CHRISTMAS EVE - 8.00 PM VIGIL MASS

Would any Readers or Ministers of Holy Communion who would be able to serve at the 8.00pm Mass on Christmas Eve please let Deacon Sean know in advance?

Email seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk or phone 07960 958441

READERS AT CHRISTMAS MASSES

Booklets containing the readings for Midnight Mass, the Vigil Masses and the Masses of Christmas Day are in the sacristy for readers to collect this weekend.



CHRISTMAS MASSES FOR CHILDREN Christmas Eve

Our early Masses are intended only for families with children.

To avoid overcrowding, others are asked to avoid these Masses.

4 pm – Vigil Mass for **children** and their families

4 pm – Additional Mass in the Hall for younger children and their families

300 CLUB

The winners of the Christmas draw are:

Ana Weeks £250

Peter Lake £100

Patricia Hanley- Christmas Hamper

Many congratulations to them all.

The collection at all Christmas Masses is your gift to our Priests.

ST EDMUND'S BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

When someone we love dies, it's natural to want to talk about them — to share memories of them, express our feelings, and reflect on our loss. Many of us find comfort in family and friends, but sometimes those around us may not fully understand what we're going through.

The **St Edmund's Bereavement Support Group** offers a kind, safe, and understanding space for anyone who is grieving. In a warm and welcoming environment, parishioners can meet others who have also experienced loss, share their thoughts and feelings, and talk about the practical challenges that can sometimes feel overwhelming. There is no pressure to speak — simply being among others who understand can bring comfort and reassurance. For those who wish to share, there is always a listening ear. This supportive group is open to all, regardless of faith. We run three groups a year, meeting once a week for six weeks.

A lovely quality of this group is the genuine friendship and mutual support that often grows among those who come together through shared loss.

The parish also offers other ways to remember loved ones:

- The **Memorial Board**, located at the back of the church is a place where you may display a photo or Order of Service. These will remain there for twelve months as a visible tribute.
- The **Anniversary Book** also located at the back of the church, allows you to record the names of loved ones to be remembered. Please ask the Parish Office to do this.

Each week, an **Anniversary List** is published in the Newsletter so that the whole parish community can remember them in their prayers.

Each **November**, we hold a **Requiem Mass** dedicated to all bereaved relatives and friends. If you would like your loved one's name included, please contact the Parish Office prior to the Mass. This Mass is a calm, prayerful time of reflection and remembrance, followed by refreshments in the Hall where all are welcome.

If you would like to know more about **St Edmund's Bereavement Support**, please take one of our leaflets from the shelf near the Anniversary Book at the back of the Church. You can also email us: beckenhambsg@rcaos.org.uk

LAW SURGERY

The first Law Surgery of 2026 will be on Monday, **JANUARY 5**

Please come to the side door of the Hall at 6.00 pm and you will be seen in turn.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 1 January

After 10.00 am Mass

You are all invited to come over to the Hall for refreshments with family and friends to greet 2026 with warmth and friendship.

CLAVER SISTERS' CALENDARS

The sale of this calendar last weekend raised a wonderful £2,556.41.

The Sisters are raising funds to purchase a vehicle for the Augustinian sisters who run a dispensary in the remote area of Natitingou diocese, Benin.

There will not be evening Adoration on Christmas Day at the Claver Convent.

We are very pleased to welcome Lawrence Dunham to the parish for a short stay between the 3rd and 28th January.

Lawrence is currently a seminarian studying at Valladolid in Spain.



Please will parishioners put their mobile phones on silent whilst they are in the church.

An increasing number of Masses are being disturbed by ringing phones. Thank you for your co-operation.

CHURCH SHOP

We still have candles made for our 75th anniversary celebration.

These are beautifully boxed and would make a lovely Christmas gift.

We also have in the shop copies of a book written by a parishioner, Tammy Ferrando. It is 'a Christmas story of fun & fulfilled dreams starring the Holy Trinity and little Chris!' It would make an ideal Christmas gift for 3-6 year olds.

In his annual Christmas message, Archbishop John Wilson said: "The beautiful truth of Christmas is that because of God in Christ we are never lost. God chose to be near us, to stay close to us always, to draw us to himself, always. In his endless mercy, the Lord Jesus chose to love us, so we could know and believe that "God is love" (1 John 4:16). In turn, all the Lord Jesus asks of us is to not be afraid and to say yes to him, to draw close to him, to love him".

You can watch and read the full message at rcaos.org.uk/christmasmessage2025. or use the QR code to access the message on your phone.



On behalf of the service team, The Light of Christ Catholic Charismatic Prayer Meeting wishes you a very Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year. We will not meet over the Christmas period and look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 7th January, 2026.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP STARTING SOON

A 6-week Bereavement Support Group will begin on Thursday, 19 February, meeting weekly at 6:00 pm in the Meeting Room at St. Edmund's Hall. This free group is open to everyone, regardless of faith, and offers a supportive space to share and heal. Spaces are limited to 7 attendees.

To book your place, please contact the Church Office at 020 8650 0970 or email beckenhambsg@rcaos.org.uk.

DIARY

December

Sat 20 Penitential Service 4.15pm
Mon 22 Christingle Service - 2.00pm
Tues 23 Requiem for Ilean Curry - 10.00am

January

Thu 1 New Year refreshment in the Hall after Morning Mass
Friday 2 Requiem for Zygmunt Sobolewski 11.30
Mon 5 Law Surgery at 6.00 in the Hall Meeting Room

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from 5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of each month and bank holidays.

Contemplative Saturday in the Hall on 10 January from 11-12

Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence

Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm, and usually during Adoration if there is a priest available.

Adoration during Christmas week will be on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and will be for half an hour.

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am.

We pray for all who have died: Rowena D'Souza, Ilean Curry, Elizabeth William, Marie Alford, Edwin Voss, Bruno Joseph, Josephine Oke, Angelina Kioko, Michael Dowler, Margaret Ziolek and Mary Aileen Shannon

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Fr David Maher, Margaret Murphy, John Brooks, Aldo Signorelli, Merle Whittle, Tessa Gould, Glen LeFleur, John Sheehan, Joseph Fennessy, Gabriela Krakowska, Ellen Whelan, John Keogh, Cicely Welsh, John Flood, Sybil Brocklehurst, Leo Tindemans, Ann Lynch, Joan Giuseppi, Agnes Fahy, Elvire Foster, Felix De Souza, Alan Clarke, Keith Garraway, Marion Skelly, William O'Neill, Ralph Lilly, Janusz Kopczynski, Iolene Durham, John Kelsall, Ted Northwood, Dorothy Pask, Christopher Power, Sam Kandasamy, Evelyn Dias, Richard Graves, Brian Miller, Patrick Flaherty, Joan Dempsey, Lloyd Carpenter, Paula Vella, Walter Airey, June Chill, Terrance Forrest, Lindsey Pollard, Armando Campos, Patricia Griffin, James Wallis, Kathleen Hayes, Teagne McGinley

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woppard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Zygmunt Sobolewski, James Creedon, Sarah-Marie Kench, Duncan, Grace, Nora Haugh, Sue Shaw, Linda Magness, Charles, John Warren Dene, Joyce Edwins.

Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.

MASSES UNTIL 11 JANUARY

Sun 21 Dec	Fourth Sunday of Advent
6.00 pm VIGIL	Maurice Tydings, Mary Lena, Esther and Caleman RIP
8.00 am	John Friend Pereira RIP
9.30 am	For the people
11.00 am LATIN	Dec'd members of the Kairis Family
5.30 pm	Paddy & John Sheehan RIP
Mon 22 Dec	Feria
10.00 am	Arthur Hughes RIP
2.00 pm	Christingle Service
Tues 23 Dec	Feria
10.00 am	Requiem of Ilean Curry
Wed 24 Dec	Christmas Eve
10.00 am	Dec'd members of the Mackeonis Family
4.00 pm	MASSES OF CHRISTMAS
4.00 pm HALL	Debbie & Boleslaw Slapas RIP
6.00 pm	Pro populo
8.00 pm	David, Paul & Betty Stephens RIP
11.30 pm	Paolo & Armando Cogoni RIP
	Carols & Readings
Thurs 25 Dec	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
12.00 am	Des Johnson RIP
	In thanksgiving - Ekong & Edet Family
	Margaret Paes RIP
8.00 am	Nora & Margaret Spillane RIP
9.30 am	The Rudd Family - health & wellbeing
11.00 am	Int of Emmanuel Nwosu & family
	No evening Mass
Fri 26 Dec	St Stephen
10.00 am	Pat Murphy— get well
Sat 27 Dec	St John, Apostle
10.00 am	Rev Martin Tobin
6.00 pm	Janet Maureen Dunn Browne RIP & dec'd family members
Sun 28 Dec	THE HOLY FAMILY
8.00 am	Andrew Bready RIP
9.30 am	For the people
11.00 am LATIN	Dec'd members of the Pym Family
5.30 pm	Maureen & Bridie Howard RIP
Mon 29 Dec	St Thomas of Canterbury
10.00 am	Iolene Durham RIP (anniv)
Tues 30 Dec	Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity
10.00 am	Ints of Mary & Sean Carr
Wed 31 Dec	Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity
10.00 am	Ints of Titas Robinson

Thurs 1 Jan	Mary, The Holy Mother of God
10.00 am	Bridget Coburn RIP
6.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration and Benediction
Fri 2 Jan	Saints Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen
10.00 am	Special intention of Spencer & Ekaterina
	NO ADORATION
11.30 am	Requiem of Zygmunt Sobolewski
Sat 3 Jan	Feria of Christmas Time
10.00 am	Maurice Tydings RIP & Mother & Lena & Esther RIP
	Marie-Therese Sinon RIP
Sun 4 Jan	Second Sunday after the Nativity
8.00 am	For the people
9.30 am	Ints of Fr John Olaniran - in thanks for his service at St Edmunds
11.00 am	John Wade RIP
5.30 pm	Terence Turner RIP
Mon 5 Jan	Feria of Christmas Time
10.00 am	Emily Esinam Abonie (b'day)
	Adoration until 11.00
7.30 pm	Fr David Quarmby RIP
Tues 6 Jan	The Epiphany of the Lord
10.00 am	For the Flynn & Ruddy Families
	No Adoration
7.30 pm	For the people
Wed 7 Jan	Feria of Christmas Time
10.00 am	Welfare of Diane Brelu
	Adoration until 11.00
Thurs 8 Jan	Feria of Christmas Time
10.00 am	Patricia Griffin RIP (8th anniv)
	No Adoration
6.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration and Benediction
Fri 9 Jan	Feria of Christmas Time
9.10 am	Mass at St Mary's
10.00 am	In thanksgiving for exam success
	Adoration until 11.00
Sat 10 Jan	Feria of Christmas Time
10.00 am	Eileen O'Sullivan RIP
6.00 pm VIGIL	Stewart, Elena & Sullivan Families
Sun 11 Jan Dec	The Baptism of the Lord
8.00 am	Mary Totterdell RIP
9.30 am	For the people
11.00 am	Jane Morey RIP
5.30 pm	Ann Moys RIP & Alice Castle RIP

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

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Parish Office - Phone: 020 8650 0970 - Email: beckenham@rcaos.org.uk

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Boniface Arapa - bonifacearapa@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk

Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardraos.org.uk

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915

sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com

Sunday 14 December 2025 Yr A



The Claver Sisters will be selling their calendars after all Masses.

HONESTY BEFORE GOD AND MAN GIVES US PEACE AND HAPPINESS

Dear friends in Christ,

When I visited one of the shopping centres in town this week, a gentleman came into the shop where I had gone to buy some small item, picked up some valuable, put it into his pocket and smartly walked out of the shop without paying! This shocked me and it made me recall this story of a very honest widow in Uganda which I will now share with you.

A shopkeeper had just opened his store when a woman arrived and said, "Sir, here is your 1,000 shillings."

The shopkeeper looked at the poor woman with questioning eyes, as if asking, "When did I give you 1,000 shillings?" The woman replied, "Last evening, I bought some items. I gave you 10,000 shillings, bought goods worth 7,000 and you returned 4,000 instead of 3,000."

The shopkeeper touched the 1,000 to his forehead, placed it in the cash box, and asked, "Tell me one thing, sister. You bargained so much while buying the items, even for 500 shillings and now you've come all the way to return 1,000?!"

The woman replied, "Bargaining is my right. But once the price is settled, paying less is a sin."

The Shopkeeper said, "But you didn't pay less. You paid the full amount. This 1,000 came to you by my mistake. If you had kept it, it wouldn't have made any difference to me."

The Woman said, "It may not matter to you, but it would weigh on my conscience. I would know I kept your money knowingly. That's why I came last night to return it, but your shop was closed."

The Shopkeeper asked in surprise, "Where do you live?" She replied, "Road 8."

The Shopkeeper's mouth dropped open. "You came 3 kilometers just to return 1,000 shillings and this is your second visit?!!!"

The Woman calmly said, "Yes, it's my second visit. If you want peace of mind, you have to do such things. My husband is no longer in this world, but he taught me one thing: 'Never take even a single coin that belongs to someone else because a person may stay silent, but the One above can ask for an account anytime. And the punishment for that account might fall on my children.'"

Saying this, the woman left.

The Shopkeeper immediately took out 30,000 shillings from the cash box, got on his bike, and told his assistant, "Take care of the shop. I'll be back soon."

He went to another shop in the market and handed 30,000 shillings to the shopkeeper named Prince "Here, take your 30,000. Yesterday, when you came to buy goods, I overcharged you."

Prince laughed and said, "If you overcharged me, you could've returned it when I came back. Why come so early in the morning?"

The shopkeeper replied, "What if I die before you return? You didn't even know I owed you 30,000 shillings. That's why I

had to return it. Who knows when the One above will ask for an account? And the punishment might fall on my children." The shopkeeper left, but Prince was deeply disturbed. Ten years before, he had borrowed 3,000,000, (three million) shillings from a friend. But the very next day, the friend passed away.

The friend's family didn't know about the money, so no one asked for it. Prince, tempted by greed, never took the initiative to return it.

Today, that friend's family lives in poverty. His widow worked as a maid to raise her children. Yet Prince had kept their money.

The shopkeeper's words - "Who knows when the One above will ask for an account, and the punishment might fall on my children"-haunted Prince.

After three days of mental turmoil, his conscience awakened. He withdrew 30,000,000 shillings (30 million) from the bank and went to his friend's house.

The widow was at home, sitting with her children. Prince fell at her feet. For a woman struggling for every coin, 30,000,000 was a huge amount. Tears welled up in her eyes. She blessed Prince for his honesty.

She is the same woman who had gone twice to return 1,000 shillings to the shopkeeper.

From the story above we learn that honesty makes us live in peace with God and with one another. As we prepare for the celebration of Christmas, may we be honest with God in all our dealings, aware that He knows us through and through, and that we shall account to Him for our actions. May we always treat one another with love, honesty, sincerity and trust. Let our conscience always be our judges.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

Fr Boniface Arapa

Altar Servers at Christmas

We wish to ensure that the Christmas Services run as smoothly as possible so we are asking our young Altar Servers, with their parent's approval, to let us know which Mass they intend to serve at.

Christmas Eve Masses

4.00 pm, 6.00 pm, 8.00 pm and Midnight

Christmas Day Masses

8.00 am, 9.30 am and 11.00 am

There are a couple of procedural matters. First, we would ask that ALL Altar Servers arrive at least 15 minutes before the Mass commences. For Midnight Mass 30 minutes is requested. This allows for the delivery of any important information before the Mass starts.

Secondly, at recent Midnight Masses very young children have fallen asleep on the Sanctuary. They should be in bed really! Please only older Altar Servers at this Mass.

There are lists in the Sacristy for Altar Servers to sign to let us know when they will be serving. They can also contact Deacon Sean at seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk

Many thanks, Peter Lake

Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.



**PARISH ADVENT
CAROL SERVICE
Saturday evening**



This **Saturday** at **7.15 pm** in the Church and online at:

www.saintedmunds.net

The programme is available on the website.

We are raising money to support St. Christopher's Hospice so there will be a basket collection. You can also donate online at:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/cathy-denne-1699010107900

or you can post a donation through the Office door marked for St. Christopher's Hospice'. There is also a QR code for this on the Noticeboard in the Church next to the poster.

We do hope you are able to join us in the Church and then for mince pies and mulled wine afterwards in the Hall.



CLAVER SISTERS' CALENDARS

The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver will be selling their 2026 Mission Calendars after all Masses this weekend. The Sisters are raising funds to purchase a vehicle for the Sisters of St Louis who run Mobile Schools in the rural areas of a diocese in Ghana. Please give generously.

CHURCH SHOP

We still have candles made for our 75th anniversary celebration.

These are beautifully boxed and would make a lovely Christmas gift.

SCOOTER

A child's scooter has been left at the back of the church for a couple of weeks. If it is your child's, please come to the Parish Office to collect it.

If it is not claimed by Wednesday it will be taken to a charity shop.



**SVP GIFT CARD APPEAL
FOR LOCAL FAMILIES
IN NEED**

SVP Beckenham has reached out to 10 of our local primary schools to offer a Sainsbury's gift card to families in particular need. This year we hope to donate £5,000 via gift cards and would very much appreciate your support in getting to this total.

Donations can be made by bank transfer to: 60 60 04, 46076190, Ref: gift cards 2025 Cash and cheques can be posted through the parish office door.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 1 January

After 10.00 am Mass

You are all invited to come over to the Hall for refreshments with family and friends to greet 2026 with warmth and friendship.

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

At the Christmas Fair last Saturday children were invited to write 'A Christmas Prayer'. These have been moved to the church and placed on a Prayer Tree in the Lady Chapel.

If any parishioner would like to add their prayer to this tree there are cards at the back of church this weekend.



Please will parishioners put their mobile phones on silent whilst they are in the church.

An increasing number of Masses are being disturbed by ringing phones.

Thank you for your co-operation.

READERS AT CHRISTMAS MASSES

Booklets containing the readings for Midnight Mass and the Masses of Christmas Day (8.00 am, 9:30 am and 11.00 am) are in the sacristy for you to collect.

These booklets DO NOT contain the readings for the Vigil Masses of Christmas Eve (4.00 pm, 6.00 pm and 8.00 pm). We will notify readers for these Masses when we have the appropriate Missalettes.

Last week I was in Prague with Archbishop John Wilson and other priests of Southwark diocese who have been ordained in the last few years.

We visited the church of the Holy Infant of Prague and Prague Cathedral, visiting the tombs of St Vitus and St Wenceslaus and climbing the bell tower.

We celebrated Mass together at St Norbert's tomb at the Stahov Monastery (Fr. Gildas from the Norbertine community at Peckham arranged this). We also celebrated Mass at the Jesuit church of St Ignatius and this photo was taken afterwards.

If you look closely you will recognise a number of priests who spent some time at Beckenham: Allan McDonald, Frazer Bellfield and Joseph Gulliford (now with a beard).

Fr Andrew



CHRISTMAS FAIR

Last Saturday's Christmas Fair was a lovely parish occasion with many parishioners gathering in the Hall to meet friends, enjoy some refreshments and buy some of the gifts on offer.

This fair was deliberately kept smaller than usual as the organisers are planning a full scale one in the spring.

Thank you to Cathy and her team who put this together and raised £1600.00.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

Church Hall

Wednesday 17 December

7.45 pm Praise and Worship

8.00 pm Holy Mass

Celebrant –Fr Boniface Arapa

Followed by Informal prayer meeting

10.00 pm Evening concludes



A few pictures of the fair.

A big thank you to Father Christmas for dropping in to see the children.

MASSES

Sun 14 Dec	Third Sunday of Advent Gaudete Sunday Angela Laws RIP Monica Grima RIP Mick Westgarth RIP Agnes & Edward O'Reilly RIP Giaco & Chona's wedding anniv (Rite of Acceptance) Ints of Frances & Michael Northwood
Mon 15 Dec	Feria Dec'd members of the Fitzgerald Family No Adoration Requiem of Eileen Cammiade
Tues 16 Dec	Feria Canon Jack Madden RIP
Wed 17 Dec	Feria Catherine Donnelly RIP No Adoration Charismatic Mass in Hall
Thurs 18 Dec	Feria Carmel Watt RIP No Adoration Adoration St Mary's KS2 Carol Service
Fri 19 Dec	Feria Sue O'Donnell RIP Requiem of Marie Alford
Sat 20 Dec	Feria Marie De Lourdes Nunes RIP (2nd anniv) Advent Penitential Service Maurice Tydings, Mary Lena, Esther and Caleman RIP
Sun 21 Dec	Fourth Sunday of Advent 8.00 am John Friend Pereira RIP 9.30 am For the people 11.00 am LATIN Dec'd members of the Kairis Family 5.30 pm Paddy & John Sheehan RIP Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm, and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after morning Mass from Monday to Saturday, unless otherwise announced.



We pray for all who have died: Ilean Curry, Eileen Cammiade, Marie Alford, Bruno Joseph, Josephine Oke, Angelina Kioko, Michael Dowler, Margaret Ziolek and Zigmunt Sobolewski

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Pamela Flood, Teresa Basquill, Mick Westgarth, John Ransford, Canon Jack Madden, Carmel Watt, Evelyn Deegan, Charles Paes, Angela Laws, Stella Ling, Terry Smith, Kitina Sana, Eileen Sullivan, Antoinette Davies, Peter Carr, Ann Craig, Carmel Connell, Orazio Rossi, Denise dos Santos Zanardine.

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woppard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, James Creedon, Sarah-Marie Kench, Duncan, Grace, Nora Haugh, Sue Shaw, Linda Magness, Charles, John Warren Dene, Reggie Rock, Teresa Cadogan.

DIARY

December	
Sat 13	Advent Carol Service 7.15pm
Mon 15	Requiem for Eileen Cammiade-11.30am
Mon 15	SVP Christmas lunch - 1.00pm
Fri 19	Requiem for Marie Alford -1.00pm
Sat 20	Penitential Service 4.15pm
Mon 22	Christingle Service - 2.00pm
Tues 23	Requiem for Ilean Curry - 10.00am

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from 5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of each month and bank holidays.

Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence

SOUTHWARK SPIRITUALITY COMMISSION ADVENT REFLECTIONS

The Southwark Spirituality Commission sends daily reflections during Advent featuring Scripture, thoughts and prayers.

Sign-up to receive them directly into your inbox each morning via tinyurl.com/SSCAvent2025. These reflections are a great way to keep your mind focused on the Lord Jesus during the busy Advent season.

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Website: www.saintedmunds.net

Parish Office - Phone: 020 8650 0970 - Email: beckenham@rcaos.org.uk

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Boniface Arapa - bonifacearapa@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk

Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardraos.org.uk

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915

sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com

Sunday 7 December 2025 Yr A



Appeal & retiring collection for MSP

MISSION APPEAL FOR THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST PAUL (MSP)

We welcome Fr. Peter Akor MSP, of the Missionary Society of St. Paul (MSP), who will celebrate Masses this weekend and make the mission appeals.

The MSP is a religious congregation working in different parts of the world, committed to spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ and the salvific work of God the Father in the Holy Spirit. The MSP warmly invites you to support their mission appeal. There will be a retiring collection at all Masses. Additionally, you can donate by setting up a direct debit or by cheque using the provided account details:

Account Name: The Missionary Society of St Paul

Sort code: 202963

Account No: 73306224

Bank Name: Barclays Bank

Alternatively, you can use your smartphone to donate via the QR code below or make a donation using the following link <https://donate.mydona.com/missionary-society-of-st-paul>



Thank you for supporting the MSP work and sponsoring the training of their Seminarians. Some give to the Mission by going. Others go to the Mission by giving. Why not consider going to the Mission by giving. Support the work of the MSP

For further information contact:

The Mission Director

Email: mission.office@mspfathers.co.uk

Telephone: 02077375669

Altar Servers at Christmas

As we enter the season of Advent, we wish to ensure that the Christmas Services run as smoothly as possible. We are asking our young Altar Servers, with their parent's approval, to let us know which Mass they intend to serve at on the Sanctuary.

Christmas Eve Masses

4.00pm, 6.00pm, 8.00pm and Midnight

Christmas Day Masses

8.00am, 9.30am and 11.00am

Please note a couple of procedural matters. First, we would ask that ALL Altar Servers arrive at least 15 minutes before the Mass commences. For Midnight Mass 30 minutes is requested. This allows for the delivery of any important information before the Mass starts.

Secondly, at Midnight Masses recently very young children have fallen asleep on the Sanctuary. They should be in bed really! Please only older Altar Servers at this Mass.

There will be lists in the Sacristy for Altar Servers to sign to let us know when they will be attending. If this is not possible, please contact Deacon Sean at seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk

Many thanks, Peter Lake

Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.

ARCHBISHOP JOHN'S ADVENT 2025 REFLECTION

This Advent, Archbishop John is calling us on to reflect on the "astonishing truth" that the "Lord Jesus is, and always will be, Emmanuel: God with us, God beside us, God within us". In a [video reflection](#), Archbishop John said that: "to say God is with us is not poetry but power. It means that the Lord Jesus stepped into our humanity so that we might step into his divinity. It means that God is no distant deity, but one who draws near; who shares our joys and carries our sorrows; who opens heaven to earth, and earth to heaven". You can watch his full reflection at rcaos.org.uk/advent2025.

CALLED TO BEAR FRUIT consultation response published

Thank you to the thousands of people who took part in the Called to Bear Fruit Consultation. We are grateful to you all for sharing so openly your hopes for the life of the Church in our Archdiocese.

The consultation response, which includes 15 actions points for renewal, is available at rcaos.org.uk/calledtobearfruit and hard-copies will be sent to every parish. The consultation revealed a burning desire within our parishes to be missionary and evangelising disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ, who work together to help people encounter His love.

So, as we move forward on the next steps together, let's build up the Body of Christ in Southwark with faith and confidence, becoming ever more a community of missionary disciples filled with joy and hope for the future. As an Archdiocese, we will continue to discern the process of renewal, and further updates will be provided in due course.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

Church Hall, Wednesday 10 December
7.45 pm Praise and Worship
8.00 pm Holy Mass
Celebrant –Fr Boniface Arapa
Followed by Adoration before the
Blessed Sacrament
10.00 pm Evening concludes



SVP GIFT CARD APPEAL FOR LOCAL FAMILIES IN NEED

SVP Beckenham has reached out to 10 of our local primary schools to offer a Sainsbury's gift card to those families in particular need. This year we hope to donate £5,000 via gift cards and would very much appreciate your support in getting to this total.

Donations can be made by bank transfer to: 60 60 04, 46076190, Ref: gift cards 2025
Cash and cheques can be posted through the parish office door.

THANK YOU 5TH BECKENHAM SOUTH SCOUTS

We would like to thank the 5th Beckenham Scouts for their generous donation from the profits of their very successful firework display in Croydon Rec on 8 November.

CLAVER SISTERS' CALENDARS

The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver will be selling their 2026 Mission Calendars after all Masses next weekend. The Sisters are raising funds to purchase a vehicle for the Sisters of St Louis who run Mobile Schools in the rural areas of a diocese in Ghana. Please give generously.

CHURCH SHOP

The church shop has many Advent and Christmas items in stock.

There are 24-day Advent candles, beautiful Christmas cribs, 2026 diaries, religious Christmas cards, lovely books for children, stocking fillers and all kinds of little gifts.

Please take a look.

WALKING GROUP

All members, past and present, are invited to coffee, mulled wine and mince pies at Margaret's house on Friday 12 December. Michael will lead a walk through Kelsey Park after 10.00 am Mass or just come to 69 Kenwood Drive, BR3 6QZ at 11.15 am

Margaret 07880 793175

PARISH ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

On **Saturday, 13th December** at **7.15 p.m.** in the Church and online on our Webcam: www.saintedmunds.net.

Carols and Readings to really get ready for Christmas.

A programme will be available on the website from 11th December.

We are raising money to support St. Christopher's Hospice and so we will have a collection. Should you wish to donate to this charity you can also do so online:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/cathy-denner-1699010107900>

or you can post a donation through the Presbytery door marked 'St. Christopher's Hospice'. There is also a QR code for this on the Noticeboard in the Church next to the poster.

We do hope you are able to join us in the Church and then for Mince Pies and Mulled Wine afterwards in the Church Hall!

SVP CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Monday 15 December in the Hall at 1.00 pm

There will be a full Christmas meal and some seasonal entertainment.

No charge for those on a low income but a suggested donation of £15 for all others.

Please email beckenhamsvp@gmail.com or call 07789 497 482 and leave a message or text/WA to reserve your place, to advise of any dietary requirements or to arrange transport.

THE LAST DAY TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE IS WEDNESDAY 10TH DECEMBER

LIVING WELL

We were delighted to be able to send 3 trolleys full of essentials and Christmas goodies to Living Well (thank you Mick for delivering it all). Additionally £925 was collected in cash and card donations. Thank you all

SCOOTER

A child's scooter has been left at the back of church for a couple of weeks. If it is yours, please contact the parish office (where it now resides). If unclaimed by 16 December it will be handed to one of the charity shops.

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

At the Christmas Fair on Saturday the children will be invited to write 'A Christmas Prayer'. These will be moved to the Church early next week and placed on a Prayer Tree in the church. If any parishioner would like to add their Prayer to this tree there will be cards available to complete at the back of Church next weekend.

Margaret Ziolek RIP

The children of Margaret Ziolek: Ann, Jane, Paul, Michael and Andrew, are sad to announce the death of their dear mother on Wednesday 3rd December at Coloma Court Care Home, where she had been resident since April 2023.

Funeral arrangements are yet to be made and will be shared when confirmed.

Ann Higgs

CHRISTMAS MASSES AT ST EDMUND'S – 2025

Christmas Eve:

Early Masses intended only for families with children. To avoid overcrowding,



others are asked to avoid these Masses.

4 pm – Vigil Mass for **children** and their families

4 pm – **Additional Mass in the hall** for **younger children** and their families

Masses for general congregations

6.00 pm – Vigil Mass

8.00 pm – Vigil Mass

Midnight Mass

(readings and carols from 11:30 pm)

Christmas Day:

8.00 am – Dawn Mass

9:30 am – Family Mass -

Mass of Christmas Day

11.00 am- Mass of Christmas Day

There are no evening Masses

SR ASSUMPTA

On behalf of the Parish we would like to welcome back Sister Assumpta who has re-joined the Calver Sisters Convent here in Beckenham after spending 6 years in Rome.

MASSES

Sun 7 Dec	Second Sunday of Advent
6.00 pm VIGIL	Crescenzo & Delisa Panetta RIP
8.00 am	For the people
9.30 am	Private intention in thanksgiving
11.00 am	Victor Castelino (4th anniv)
5.30 pm	Ints of the Fitzgerald Family
Mon 8 Dec	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
10.00 am	Dcsd benefactors & promoters of the Claver Sisters
Tues 9 Dec	Feria
10.00 am	Jim Enright RIP
Wed 10 Dec	Feria
10.00 am	Thomas Lee RIP
8.00 pm	Charismatic Mass in Hall
Thurs 11 Dec	Feria
10.00 am	Joe Doyle RIP (4th anniv)
6.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration
Fri 12 Dec	Feria (Our Lady of Guadalupe)
10.00 am	Birthday intentions of Marcellina Mayungbe
Sat 13 Dec	St Lucy
10.00 am	Spiro & Alba Pensa RIP
	No Adoration
11.00 am	Reconciliation for FHC candidates
6.00 pm VIGIL	Angela Laws RIP
7.15 pm	Advent Carol Service
Sun 14 Dec	Third Sunday of Advent
8.00 am	Monica Grima RIP
9.30 am	Mick Westgarth RIP
11.00 am	Agnes & Edward O'Reilly RIP
	Giaco & Chona's wedding anniv
	(Rite of Acceptance)
5.30 pm	Ints of
	Frances & Michael Northwood

Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm, and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after morning Mass from Monday to Saturday, unless otherwise announced.



CHRISTINGLE
Monday 22 December at 2.00 pm
Make your own Christingle
and join us for the service in church.

MICHAEL DOWLER RIP

Many of you will remember Mike our local street sweeper who sadly died last week. If you would like to make a donation in memory of Michael, please use this link: https://www.gofundme.com/f/michael-dowler?ref=ed_direct
May he rest in peace.

We pray for all who have died: Rowena D'Souza, Ilean Curry, Eileen Cammiade, Elizabeth William, Marie Alford, Edwin Voss, Eva Maria Knapp, Bruno Joseph, Josephine Oke, Angelina Kioko, Michael Dowler and Margaret Ziolek

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Rachel Elias, Leonard Cook, Pearse Kilcullen, Mim Jennings, Mary Beck, Margaret O'Neill, Tony Hallett, Lucas Campos, Elizabeth Lynch, Sharon Wigner, Melvin Deakin, Valerie Colyer, William Ross, Mary Sullivan, Chris McBurney

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woppard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Zygmunt Sobelewski, James Creedon, Sarah-Marie Kench, Duncan, Grace, Nora Haugh, Sue Shaw, Linda Magness, Charles, John Warren Dene.

DIARY

December

Sat 6	Christmas Fair 11-4.00pm
Sat 13	Advent Carol Service 7.15 pm
Mon 15	Requiem for Eileen Cammiade-11.30am
Mon 15	SVP Christmas lunch - 1.00pm
Fri 19	Requiem for Marie Alford -1.00pm
Sat 20	Penitential Service 4.15pm
Mon 22	Christingle Service - 2.00pm
Tues 23	Requiem for Ilean Curry - 10.00am

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from 5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of each month and bank holidays.
Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence

SOUTHWARK SPIRITUALITY COMMISSION ADVENT REFLECTIONS

The Southwark Spirituality Commission will be sending daily reflections during Advent featuring Scripture, thoughts and prayers. Sign-up to receive them directly into your inbox each morning via tinyurl.com/SSCAvent2025. These reflections are a great way to keep your mind focused on the Lord Jesus during the busy Advent season.



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Website: www.saintedmunds.net

Parish Office - Phone: 020 8650 0970 - Email: beckenham@rcaos.org.uk

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Boniface Arapa - bonifacearapa@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk

Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardraos.org.uk

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915

sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com

Sunday 30 November 2025 Yr C



Retiring collection and food collection for Living Well

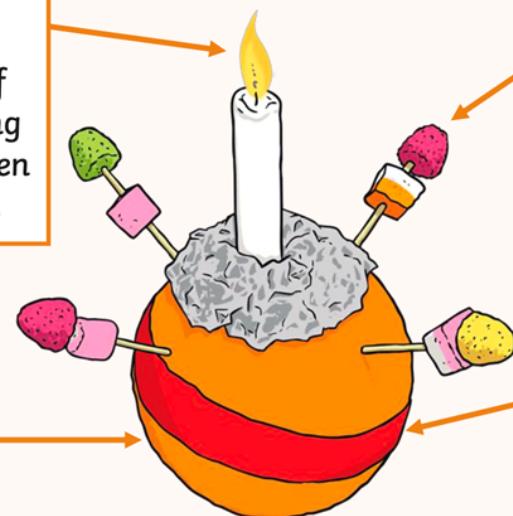
CHRISTINGLE - A SIGN OF HAPPINESS

Over three hundred years ago, a bishop in Germany gave all the children in his church a gift. The gift was a candle with a red ribbon around it. He wanted to give the children something to remind them that their happiness came from God.

What Does It All Mean?

What do you think is the meaning of each part of the Christingle?

The candle represents Jesus being the light of the world, bringing hope to people when they are in need.



The sweets/dried fruit represent God's creations in the four seasons.

The orange represents the world.

The red ribbon represents God's love for the world and the blood of Jesus when he died on the cross.

You will need

- 4 cocktail sticks
- an orange
- a red ribbon
- some sweets or dried fruit AND a candle

Instructions

Tie the red ribbon around the middle of the orange.

Push the four cocktail sticks into the orange.

Carefully, put the sweets or dried fruit on the ends of the cocktail sticks.

Push the candle into the orange. You might need an adult to make a small hole at the top of the orange first.

We are having a Christingle service at 2.00 pm on Monday 22nd December. Why don't you make one and come along?

Fr Andrew.

Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.

ARCHBISHOP JOHN'S ADVENT 2025 REFLECTION

This Advent, Archbishop John is calling us on to reflect on the "astonishing truth" that the "Lord Jesus is, and always will be, Emmanuel: God with us, God beside us, God within us". In a [video reflection](#), Archbishop John said that: "to say God is with us is not poetry but power. It means that the Lord Jesus stepped into our humanity so that we might step into his divinity. It means that God is no distant deity, but one who draws near; who shares our joys and carries our sorrows; who opens heaven to earth, and earth to heaven". You can watch his full reflection at rcaos.org.uk/advent2025.

CALLED TO BEAR FRUIT consultation response published

Thank you to the thousands of people who took part in the Called to Bear Fruit Consultation. We are grateful to you all for sharing so openly your hopes for the life of the Church in our Archdiocese.

The consultation response, which includes 15 actions points for renewal, is available at rcaos.org.uk/calledtobearfruit and hard-copies will be sent to every parish. The consultation revealed a burning desire within our parishes to be missionary and evangelising disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ, who work together to help people encounter His love.

So, as we move forward on the next steps together, let's build up the Body of Christ in Southwark with faith and confidence, becoming ever more a community of missionary disciples filled with joy and hope for the future. As an Archdiocese, we will continue to discern the process of renewal, and further updates will be provided in due course.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETNG

Church Hall, Wednesday 3 December
7.45 pm Praise and Worship
8.00 pm Holy Mass
Celebrant - Fr Boniface
Followed by Lectio Divina
10.00 pm Evening concludes



SVP GIFT CARD APPEAL FOR LOCAL FAMILIES IN NEED

SVP Beckenham has reached out to 10 of our local primary schools to offer a Sainsbury's gift card to those families in particular need. This year we hope to donate £5,000 via gift cards and would very much appreciate your support in getting to this total.

Donations can be made by bank transfer to: 60 60 04, 46076190, Ref: gift cards 2025
Cash and cheques can be posted through the parish office door.

SVP CHRISTMAS LUNCH Monday 15 December in the Hall at 1.00 pm

Booking is now open for the annual SVP Christmas lunch.

There will be a full Christmas meal and some seasonal entertainment.



No charge for those on a low income but a suggested donation of £15 for all others.

Please email beckenhamsvp@gmail.com or call 07789 497 482 and leave a message or text/WA to reserve your place, to advise of any dietary requirements or to arrange transport.

CHURCH SHOP

The church shop has many Advent and Christmas items in stock.

There are 24-day Advent candles, beautiful Christmas cribs, 2026 diaries, religious Christmas cards, lovely books for children, stocking fillers and all kinds of little gifts.

Please take a look.

WALKING GROUP

All members, past and present, are invited to coffee, mulled wine and mince pies at Margaret's house on Friday 12 December. Michael will lead a walk through Kelsey Park after 10.00 am Mass or just come to 69 Kenwood Drive, BR3 6QZ at 11.15 am

Margaret 07880 793175



**Saturday
6 December
11- 4.00 pm in
the Church Hall**



Just a reminder that the parish Christmas Fair is only a week away. All are very welcome, doors open at 11am

Bring your family and friends. Visit the stalls, stay for lunch. We are even expecting a visit from Santa.

Fun for everyone.
Entry £1.00 (children free)

Thank you for all your generous donations - we now have enough.



ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

Saturday 13 December
in the church at 7.15 pm

Everyone is invited to join our parish choirs to sing carols and listen to Christmas poetry and readings.

Join us afterwards in the Hall for mince pies and mulled wine.



LAW SURGERY

The final Law Surgery this year is on Monday, 1 December

Please come to the side door of the Hall at 6.00 pm and you will be seen in turn.



LIVING WELL

We haven't had a food collection for Living Well for quite some time so this weekend we will have one for the essentials they always need and also for items to help their families celebrate Christmas. They are in urgent need of:

- UHT milk
- Tinned vegetables/meat/fruit/soup/tomatoes
- Rice
- Pasta
- Biscuits
- Cereal
- Toilet rolls
- Cooking Oil
- Shower gel and shampoo
- Sanitary towels
- Pet food (dogs and cats)

They have also requested ham/corned beef, salmon, fruit, hot chocolate, festive biscuits and chocolates and treats for the young people.

We will have a retiring collection at our Masses but if you use this crowd-funder link to make your donation <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/lw-winter-crisis-appeal-> or this QR code your donation will be doubled!

This link takes you to Living Well's website where you can find out more about their activities <https://www.livingwell.life/>



MASSES

Sun 30 Nov	First Sunday of Advent
6.00 pm VIGIL	Rita Costelloe RIP
8.00 am	Margaret Paes RIP
9.30 am	Ints of the Johnson Family
11.00 am	Donovan Martin RIP (1st anniv)
5.30 pm	For the people
Mon 1 Dec	Feria
10.00 am	Eugene Kelly RIP
Tues 2 Dec	Feria
10.00 am	Requiem for Michael Waldron
Wed 3 Dec	St Francis Xavier
10.00 am	Alicia Krivicky RIP (20th anniv)
8.00 pm	Charismatic Mass in Hall
Thurs 4 Dec	Feria
10.00 am	Howard Long & his parents RIP
6.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration & Benediction
Friday 5 Dec	Feria
10.00 am	Benefactors & promoters of the Claver Sisters
6.30 pm	Rosary & Confession
7.00 pm	Jubilee Mass
Sat 6 Dec	St Nicholas
10.00 am	Ints of Phil Lennon
12.30 pm	Marriage of Liam & Georgina
6.00 pm VIGIL	Crescenzo & Delisa Panetta RIP
Sun 7 Dec	Second Sunday of Advent
8.00 am	For the people
9.30 am	Private intention in thanksgiving
11.00 am	Victor Castelino (4th anniv)
5.30 pm	Ints of the Fitzgerald Family

Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm, and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after morning Mass from Monday to Saturday, unless otherwise announced.

We pray for all who have died: Michael Waldron, Rowena D'Souza, Ilean Curry, Eileen Cammiade, Elizabeth William, Marie Alford, Edwin Voss, Eva Maria Knapp.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Mary Porter, Anthony Leonard, Barbara Poltera, Jeanne Ingram, Margaret Cantwell, Maria Etheridge, Evelyn Keeley, Bella Walter, Veronica Lambert.

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woppard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Zygmunt Sobelewski, James Creedon, Sarah-Marie Kench, Duncan, Grace, Nora Haugh, Sue Shaw, Linda Magness, Charles, John Warren Dene.

DIARY

December	
Tues 2	Requiem for Michael Waldron at 10.00
Sat 6	Christmas Fair 11-4.00
Sat 13	Advent Carol Service 7.15 pm
Mon 15	Requiem for Eileen Cammiade -11.30
Mon 15	SVP Christmas lunch
Fri 19	Requiem for Marie Alford -1.00
Mon 22	Christingle Service - 2.00

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from 5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of each month and bank holidays.

Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence

SOUTHWARK SPIRITUALITY COMMISSION ADVENT REFLECTIONS

The Southwark Spirituality Commission will be sending daily reflections during Advent featuring Scripture, thoughts and prayers. Sign-up to receive them directly into your inbox each morning via tinyurl.com/SSCAvent2025. These reflections are a great way to keep your mind focused on the Lord Jesus during the busy Advent season.

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

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Fr Boniface Arapa - bonifacearapa@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk

Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915

sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com

Sunday 23 November 2025 Yr C



Retiring collection for the Catholic Youth Service

RED WEDNESDAY: OUR SUFFERING CHURCH

Last Wednesday, an annual Mass was celebrated in St George's Cathedral where it started in Southwark ten years ago. It is also celebrated in other cathedrals as well.

Entitled Red Wednesday, it's an initiative of the ACN (Aid to the Church in Need) which seeks to raise our awareness of Christians who suffer for their faith.

At the conclusion of the Mass Tobias Yahaya, a 26 year-old married man with a wife and four children, a catechist from Sokoto, Northern Nigeria received from the Bishop Elect of Plymouth, Nicholas Hudson, the main celebrant, an award for his fortitude in the face of extreme persecution and for his willingness to forgive. In tears he humbly received his award, then gathered himself to address the congregation.

He then related the events of 19th April 2023 when he went outside his house to confront three men who were attempting to enter. Almost immediately he felt pain in his chest and fell to the ground bleeding. Two of the men fled, but the main assailant, Ibrahim by name, went to attack Tobias again. He suffered further injuries as he grabbed hold of the blade of the knife. It was then that neighbours, hearing the screams of Tobias' wife, came and apprehended Ibrahim.

Tobias was unconscious for twenty-four hours. Later in hospital he was able to ask Ibrahim, "Why do you want to kill me?" His would be assassin became tearful; while an incredulous onlooker asked Tobias why he was wasting his time.

In court, Ibrahim said the reason he attempted to kill Tobias was the negative influence he'd had on his children.

After sentence was passed Tobias did something quite unexpected. he hugged Ibrahim, shook him by the hand and uttered the words, "I forgive you". At this Ibrahim bowed his head and wept. Tobias had always been inspired by the action of St John Paul II who forgave the man who attempted to assassinate him and later visited him in prison.

Weeks later after the court case Tobias had a discussion with his family and decided to continue his catechetical work, comforted by the words of his mother who told him, '*Where God intends us to be may not be as comfortable as we would wish but it is where the greatest witness can be given.*'

I encourage you to join me this week in praying for Tobias and his family, for their faith, courage and willingness to forgive.

Please also pray for Ibrahim that after being fully repentant he may truly become a peacemaker working alongside Tobias in the vineyard. We also give thanks for the ACN in making us all aware of how difficult and sometimes costly responding to God's call can be.

Fr Steve

Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.

CHRISTINGLE

Monday 22 December at 2.30 pm

This will be our first ever Christingle Service to which all children, parents, carers, grandparents are invited.

We can only put this on if we have a team of helpers so if anyone can offer their assistance please could they mail me at andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk.

Thank you, Fr Andrew



CHURCH SHOP

The church shop will be displaying many of its Advent and Christmas items in the narthex after Masses this weekend.

This is a great opportunity to get ready for Advent which begins next Sunday.

There are 24-day Advent candles, beautiful Christmas cribs, 2026 diaries, religious Christmas cards, lovely books for children, stocking fillers and all kinds of little gifts.

Please take the opportunity to browse and buy.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

The Office will be closed on Tuesday and Wednesday next week.

If you need urgent assistance please contact Fr Boniface

CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETNG

Church Hall, Wednesday 26 November

7.45 pm Praise and Worship
8.00 pm Holy Mass
Celebrant Fr Boniface Arapa
Followed by the AGM
10.00 pm Evening concludes

MASS FOR THE BEREAVED

Saturday 15 November at 2.30 pm

This Mass was held last Saturday and was beautifully led by Fr Boniface. The large number who attended was a huge surprise and demonstrated that there is a need for this service.

Rosie's Choir led the singing for the Mass and created a wonderful prayerful atmosphere.

The Hospitality Team welcomed everyone to the decorated Hall for refreshments after the Mass and worked tirelessly to look after all our guests.

Huge thanks to the Bereavement Support Team for making this very special Mass happen.

SVP CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Monday 15 December in the Hall at 1.00 pm



Booking is now open for the annual SVP Christmas lunch.

There will be a full Christmas meal and some seasonal entertainment.

No charge for those on a low income but a suggested donation of £15 for all others.

Please email beckenhamsvp@gmail.com or call 07789 497 482 and leave a message or text/WA to reserve your place, to advise of any dietary requirements or to arrange transport.



SVP GIFT CARD APPEAL FOR LOCAL FAMILIES IN NEED

SVP Beckenham has reached out to 10 of our local primary schools to offer a Sainsbury's gift card to those families in particular need. This year we hope to donate £5,000 via gift cards and would very much appreciate your support in getting to this total.

Donations can be made by bank transfer to: 60 60 04, 46076190, Ref: gift cards 2025
Cash and cheques can be posted through the parish office door.

World Youth Sunday 2025. There will be a retiring collection to support the work of the Southwark Catholic Youth Service, which provides a wide range of opportunities and activities for youth and young adults across the Archdiocese. For more information, visit www.tinyurl.com/scys1 or join the Southwark Catholic Youth Network for regular updates at www.tinyurl.com/scysnetwork



Saturday 6 December

**11- 4.00 pm in the
Church Hall**



**Special visit from
Father Christmas!**

Grand Raffle, Craft,
Tombola,
Christmas Wreaths
Church Shop, Children's Room
Wonderful Hot Food and Drinks
in the Cafe

**Please bring donations for the Tombola
Stall - New or Unwanted gifts, Toiletries
and Bottles to the Office on
weekday mornings.**

Offers of help or more information from
cathpaints2@msn.com



ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

**Saturday 13 December
in the church at 7.15 pm**

Everyone is invited to join our parish choirs to sing carols and listen to Christmas poetry and Readings.

Afterwards come to the Hall for mince pies and mulled wine.



CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE

**Signing Session
Church Hall after 9.30 Mass**

Fr Steve will be signing forms for parents of children wishing to apply for entry to a Catholic primary school in September 2026

This is the last signing session.



LIVING WELL

We haven't had a food collection for Living Well for quite some time so next weekend we will have one for the essentials they always need and also for items to help their families celebrate Christmas. They are in urgent need of:

- UHT milk
- Tinned vegetables/meat/fruit/soup/tomatoes
- Rice
- Pasta
- Biscuits
- Cereal
- Toilet roll
- Cooking Oil
- Shower gel and shampoo
- Sanitary towels
- Pet food (dogs and cats)

They have also requested ham/corned beef, salmon, fruit, hot chocolate, festive biscuits and chocolates and treats for the young people.

We will have a basket collection at our Masses but if you use this crowdfunder link to make your donation <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/lw-winter-crisis-appeal-> or this QR code your donation will be doubled!

This link takes you to Living Well's website <https://www.livingwell.life/> where you can find out more about their activities,



MASSES	
Sun 23 Nov	Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
6.00 pm VIGIL	For the soul that saved my life
8.00 am	For the people
9.30 am	Welfare of Rita Morfino
11.00 am	Welfare of Phil Lennon
5.30 pm	Alan Fine RIP
Mon 24 Nov	St Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions
10.00 am	Maud Herring RIP
Tues 25 Nov	Feria (St Catherine of Alexandria)
10.00 am	Gretta Colonnese & Ron Renton RIP
Wed 26 Nov	Feria
10.00 am	Iolanda Cirronis RIP
8.00 pm	Charismatic Mass in Hall
	Celebrant Fr Boniface
Thurs 27 Nov	Feria
10.00 am	Janet Maureen Dunn Browne RIP & dec'd family members
6.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration
Friday 28 Nov	Feria
10.00 am	Ints of Gian Carlo Pupils from St Philip Neri School will be joining us for this Mass
Sat 29 Nov	Feria (St Cuthbert Mayne)
10.00 am	Theresa Lobo RIP
6.00 pm VIGIL	Rita Costelloe RIP
Sun 30 Nov	First Sunday of Advent
8.00 am	Margaret Paes RIP
9.30 am	Ints of the Johnson Family
11.00 am	Donovan Martin RIP (1st anniv)
5.30 pm	For the people

Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm, and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after morning Mass from Monday to Saturday, unless otherwise announced.

SOUTHWARK SPIRITUALITY COMMISSION ADVENT REFLECTIONS

The Southwark Spirituality Commission will be sending daily reflections during Advent featuring Scripture, thoughts and prayers. Sign-up to receive them directly into your inbox each morning via tinyurl.com/SSCAvent2025. These reflections are a great way to keep your mind focussed on the Lord Jesus during the busy Advent season.

We pray for all who have died: Michael Waldron, Rowena D'Souza, Ilean Curry, Eileen Cammiade, Elizabeth William.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Penelope Wood, Maureen Bentley, Crescenzo Panetta, Greta Colonnese, John Doyle, Pauline Tolhurst, Sally O'Shea, Epiphany Fernandes, Louise Hitchcock, Giovanni Camponaro, Roisin Acquah, David Fletcher, Henry Jones, Ernest Galea, Eileen Macey, Ivy Ballard, Siobhan Carly Smith.

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woollard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Zygmunt Sobelewski, James Creedon, Sarah-Marie Kench, Duncan, Grace, Nora Haugh, Sue Shaw, Linda Magness, Charles, John Warren Dene, Marie Alford, Simon.

DIARY

November

December

Tues 2	Requiem for Michael Waldron at 10.00
Sat 6	Christmas Fair 11-4.00 pm
Sat 13	Advent Carol Service 7.15 pm
Mon 15	SVP Christmas lunch

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from 5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of each month and bank holidays.
Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence



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Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Boniface Arapa - bonifacearapa@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk

Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardraos.org.uk

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915

sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com

Sunday 16 November 2025 Yr C



There is no retiring collection this weekend

THE BEAUTY OF THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Dear friends in Christ, allow me to share a short story with you, of a son, who took advantage of his brother Jacob, because of fear of telling the truth.

One day I threw a stone and accidentally hit my mother's hen and it died instantly. I thought I was alone but unfortunately, my brother was right behind me, watching.

He said "give me 2000 shillings and I wont tell mum". I said " I don't have that but please don't tell her".

The following day, Mum told my brother to wash the plates and sweep the floors but he said "Mum, Jacob said he will do it".

Then he came to me and said "Jacob you wash the plates and sweep the floors or else, don't forget you killed a hen". Without hesitating, I washed the plates and swept the floors for him.

The next day, mum told him to go and fetch water and fill the drum. He said again: "Mum, Jacob said he will do it". Then he came to me and said: "Jacob , remember that hen!!" Fill this drum with water or else...."

That's how I drew water and filled the drum. That same day in the evening, mum sent him to the market to buy rice and again he said Mum, Jacob said he will go and buy". He came to me again and said , "don't forget that the hen is still dead, go to the market and buy 2 kilos of rice or else....." It was now becoming too much for me, so I just stood up took courage and went to my Mum with tears in my eyes.

I found her seated in the house, I went to her, knelt down and said while crying: "Mum, I am so sorry please forgive me. I am the one who killed your hen but it wasn't

deliberately. Please Mum, forgive me. I am sorry."

Then she replied: "My son, the day you killed the hen, I was at the window watching everything that happened. Your brother made you his slave because you did not want to come to me to confess and apologize. But now you have done it, you will be free, he will no longer use you".

Dear friends, each time we sin, God sees us and our sins make us slaves. The moment we confess to God and ask for forgiveness, we are set free.

In confession we accuse ourselves to God and ask for forgiveness which we receive instantly from him through His minister, the priest.

We tell God the truth about ourselves, about our relationship with Him and with others.

We regret our bad ways of life, promise God we shall do better with his help, thereby repairing our spiritual life.

We restore our personal relationship with Him and the church, weakened by sin. We receive sacramental grace to help us resist future temptations and sin.

Confession promotes greater self control, and humility, and helps us overcome bad habits, helping us become more like Christ Jesus. Finally the sacrament provides a solution for sins committed and restores sanctifying grace to all who receive the sacrament.

May we kindly like Jacob in the story above, take courage, go and confess to God all our sins, so that sins do not enslave us any more, most especially at this special time of the year when we prepare to Receive Jesus Christ, born in our hearts at Christmas.

Thank you,

Fr Boniface Arapa

Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.

MASS FOR THE BEREAVED Saturday 15 November at 2.30 pm

All are welcome to attend to remember those they have loved and lost.

There are refreshments in the Hall after Mass.

PRAYER TREE FOR THE HOLY SOULS

Blank templates are by the Remembrance Book at the back of the church.

MARY TOTTERDELL RIP

Michael Totterdell would like to thank the parish for the wonderful support, love and sympathy shown to him and his family both before and after the death of his beautiful wife, Mary. He is truly grateful and humbled by your many acts of kindness.

Thank you.

300 CLUB

The winners for November are:

Niamh and Terry O'Regan £100

Francesca Fear £50

Michael Belfourd £25

There is still time to join before the final draw of the year is made at the Advent Carol Service on 13 December.

Membership is £39 pounds for 12 draws with the chance to win one of 36 prizes throughout the year. There is a bumper £250 first prize in December, £100 second prize and a beautiful Xmas hamper as third prize.

Registration forms are at the back of the church so please take one and return it immediately if you would like to be in the Christmas draw.

CHURCH SHOP

The church shop will display many of its Advent and Christmas items in the narthex after Masses on 22 and 23 November.

This is a great opportunity to get ready for Advent which begins the following Sunday.

There are 24 day Advent candles, beautiful Christmas cribs, 2026 diaries, religious Christmas cards, lovely books for children, stocking fillers and all kinds of little gifts.

Please take the opportunity to browse and buy.

There is a defibrillator on the wall in the inner porch. It is alarmed so please don't touch it until it is needed. When opened it tells you what needs to be done if you suspect someone is in cardiac arrest.

SVP CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Monday 15 December in the Hall at 1.00 pm

Booking is now open for the annual SVP Christmas lunch.

There will be a full Christmas meal and some seasonal entertainment.

No charge for those on a low income but a suggested donation of £15 for all others.

Please email beckenhamsvp@gmail.com or call 07789 497 482 and leave a message or text/WA to reserve your place, to advise of any dietary requirements or to arrange transport.

YOUTH DAY

SOUTHWARK CATHOLIC YOUTH SERVICE

When: Saturday 22 November

Time: 11:00 am to 5:30 pm

Where: St. John Fisher School, Chatham, Kent. *Transport available from London via youth@rcaos.org.uk*

Who: Ages 10–14

Details: Join the next Southwark Catholic Youth Service youth day for a day of faith, fun, and friendship. The day will include ice-breakers, a talk, question-box, pizza lunch, football and crafts, Adoration, and Mass.

Register www.tinyurl.com/yday22nov. For other dates and details of other events go to www.tinyurl.com/scys1



SVP GIFT CARD APPEAL FOR LOCAL FAMILIES IN NEED

SVP Beckenham has reached out to 10 of our local primary schools to offer a Sainsbury's gift card to those families in particular need. This year we hope to donate £5,000 via gift cards and would very much appreciate your support in getting to this total.

Donations can be made by bank transfer to: 60 60 04, 46076190, Ref: gift cards 2025. Cash and cheques can be posted through the parish office door.



Saturday 6 December

11 - 4.00 pm in the Church Hall



Special visit from Father Christmas!

Grand Raffle, Craft, Christmas Wreaths, Tombola,
Church Shop, Children's Room and Claver Sisters Stall
Wonderful Hot Food and Drinks in the Cafe

We need donations for the Tombola Stall -
New or Unwanted gifts, Toiletries and Bottles!

Please bring any donations to the Office on weekday mornings.



WHAT WE NEED NOW

People to help in the Children's Room



Everything will be ready for you to use.

We just need you to sign up for a helper's slot.

Does anyone have expertise in face painting, nail painting or using temporary tattoos? We could use these talents.

Offers of help or more information from cathpaints2@msn.com

A WEEKEND FOR THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN BEREAVED

The Friars, Aylesford

20 – 22 March 2026

9 - 11 October 2026.

This weekend takes place away from the pressures of day-to-day life and can help one begin to come to terms with bereavement. It is a time for quiet, prayer, talking and acceptance.

The weekend is for anyone who has experienced bereavement, either recently or some time ago.

We grieve, remember, hope and give thanks for our loved ones in the light of the Resurrection of Jesus.

For more information contact Reception on 01622 717 272 or email

reception@thefriars.org.uk

This course comes highly recommended by a parishioner who attended in October.

A survey is being carried out for the Bishops Conference of England and Wales.

It is hoping to gather knowledge of what people with Autism and ADHD (and similar) and their carers experience at church and what would make it easier for them to be part of parish worship and life. Please, if you have any experience of this take a moment to look at the survey. The hope is that, armed with knowledge, the church can set about becoming a more welcoming and inclusive community.

[https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/
neurodivergent-catholic-surveys/](https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/neurodivergent-catholic-surveys/)

CHRISTINGLE

Monday 22 December at 2.30 pm

This will be our first ever Christingle Service to which all children, parents, carers, grandparents are invited.

We can only put this on if we have a team of helpers so if anyone can offer their assistance please could they email me at andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk.

Thank you, Fr Andrew



MASSES	
Sun 16 Nov	Thirty-third Sunday World Day of the Poor Feast of St Edmund of Canterbury
6.00 pm VIGIL	Gervais Virassamy RIP
8.00 am	For the people
9.30 am	Edmund Mayungbe RIP
11.00 am	Eily Moore RIP
5.30 pm	Sandy Baron RIP
Mon 17 Nov	Feria (St Hilda)
10.00 am	Dec'd benefactors and promoters of the Claver Sisters No Adoration
Tues 18 Nov	Feria (The Dedication of the Basilicas of SS Peter & Paul)
10.00 am	Maggie RIP No Adoration
Wed 19 Nov	Feria
10.00 am	Ints of Sr Pat Devine No Adoration
11.15 am	Requiem of Patrick Gunning
8.00 pm	Charismatic Mass in Hall Celebrant Fr Kenneth Iwunna
Thurs 20 Nov	Feria
10.00 am	Sue O'Donnell RIP
6.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration
Friday 21 Nov	The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
10.00 am	Ints of Elena Aquina & of the Grant Family
Sat 22 Nov	St Cecilia
10.00 am	Welfare of Margaret & Derek Walker
6.00 pm VIGIL	For the soul that saved my life
Sun 23 Nov	Thirty-third Sunday Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
8.00 am	For the people
9.30 am	Welfare of Rita Morfino
11.00 am	Welfare of Phil Lennon
5.30 pm	Alan Fine RIP
Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm, and usually during Adoration	
There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after morning Mass from Monday to Saturday, unless otherwise announced.	

On Tuesday morning our priests will be attending the Mass at St George's Cathedral for the deceased clergy of Southwark diocese .

We pray for all who have died: Patrick Gunning, Michael Waldron, Des Johnson, Rowena D'Souza.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Edward Mayungbe, John Newcombe, Charlie Doyle, Andrew Doran, Brian Ryan, Patricia Gilbert, Thomas Widdowson, Tina Laughney, Eileen Rogers, Michael Carney, Peggy Northwood, Agnes Hazer, Eileen Rogers, Violet Pasiniewicz, Leonard Walker, Dino Toschi, Ellen McCarthy, Sheila Hartley, Siobhan O'Reilly, Ann Moys, Andrew McNally, Aurora Matella.

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woppard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Zygmunt Sobelewski, James Creedon, Sarah-Marie Kench, Duncan, Grace, Nora Haugh, Sue Shaw,

DIARY

November

Sat 15 Mass for the Bereaved at 2.30 followed by refreshments in the Hall

Wed 19 Requiem of Patrick Gunning at 11.15

December

Tues 2 Requiem for Michael Waldron at 10.00

Sat 6 Christmas Fair

Mon 15 SVP Christmas lunch

Sat 13 Advent Carol Service

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from
5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of
each month and bank holidays.

Please respect the need to arrive promptly and
observe the silence



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

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Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Boniface Arapa - bonifacearapa@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk

Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915

sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com

Sunday 9 November 2025 Yr C



The retiring collection is for the
Archbishop's Appeal

RED POPPIES

This Sunday morning, thousands of people from across the country – as here in Beckenham - will attend services at their neighbourhood war memorials to remember men and women from the armed services and emergency services who have died in war or in other military conflicts. Many thousands more will attend the main national commemoration centred on the Cenotaph in Whitehall, with millions more watching on television. For many of these, Remembrance Sunday is one of the most important days in our collective national calendar. Not everyone agrees.

Some consider such ceremonies outdated: historic events that have outlived their time. Most of those who survived the two great world wars of the twentieth century, they might argue, are themselves now dead: isn't it time to let go? Some argue: what about all the civilians who have perished in wars? Don't they deserve commemorating as well? Some, from the former colonies, or from Ireland, remember that, in their own countries, and well into the twentieth century, British forces were often used as instruments of brutal oppression. And some of the millions from Asia, Africa, or the West Indies who fought on the Allied side find it hard to overlook the rampant racism within the forces at the time and the deliberate decision by post-war British governments to erase from our national consciousness the huge contribution made by non-white men and women toward the war effort in both world wars. Some will argue that war, or violence of any kind, are abhorrent and inconsistent with their Christian beliefs, and that commemorating those who died during such conflicts is tantamount to approving of war.

I have more sympathy with some of these arguments than with others, but I respect them all, even if I do not agree with them. To those who consider Remembrance Sunday outdated, I would simply ask: do you think that our lives would be better now, in 2025, if men and women had not been prepared to put their neck on the line in 1939? And what of those who have died in action since then – do they not deserve our gratitude? As to the argument about 'civilians as well', I would suggest that it is a matter of proportion. Civilian deaths in this country from enemy action during the second world war, excluding members of the merchant navy, were less than one in a thousand of the population. By contrast, in both world wars, the death rate among those on active service was 12 to 13 per cent and in the merchant navy the figure was even higher. The risk of dying as a civilian, though real, was still very small, even in London and the major cities. But those joining up, whether voluntarily or through conscription, had a one in eight chance of not coming back. That, to my mind, is courage on a noble scale.

As for the 'Christian principles' argument, I would remind you that the Church does not require total, non-violent submission in the face of aggression, and it not only supports the principle of national self defence but also that of military conscription – albeit with very rigorous qualifications (See Catechism of the Catholic Church 2308, 2310).

But there is one argument against the marking of Remembrance Sunday that I wholly object to, and that is the assertion that it glorifies war. It does not. The entire emphasis on Sunday will be on those who died in wars and conflicts from the First World War onwards. Yes, there are people on the right who have tried to hijack Remembrance Sunday commemorations for their own nationalistic, and sometimes racist purposes. And, yes, it is not unknown for Governments to try to manipulate the occasion, and the memory of those who died, for their own purposes. But the vast majority of those attending or watching the ceremonies on Sunday will be honouring, in gratitude, sometimes with prayers, those who died not only in two world wars but also, let us not forget, in many other military actions since. Yes, there will be some uniforms and some flags at the cenotaph: it is, after all, servicemen and women that we will be honouring. But that will be the end of it. The ten thousand people who will march or be wheeled down Whitehall after the main ceremony will not include a single serving member of the armed services. The veterans and their family members who make up the parade will not be wearing uniforms, apart from berets, for some, and military decorations. There will be no flag-waving, no tub-thumping, no displays of tanks and military hardware – nothing that could possibly be construed as glorification of war. Instead, there will be poppies. Let me finish by recording what the British Legion has to say about the role of this spindly, fragile, wispy, but beautiful, flower:

'During WW1, much of the fighting took place in Western Europe. The countryside was blasted, bombed and fought over repeatedly. Previously beautiful landscapes turned to mud; bleak and barren scenes where little or nothing could grow'.

'There was a notable and striking exception to the bleakness - the bright red Flanders poppies. These resilient flowers flourished in the middle of so much chaos and destruction, growing in the thousands upon thousands'.

'Remembrance does not glorify war, and its symbol, the red poppy, is a sign of both Remembrance and hope for a peaceful future.' (From the British Legion website.)

Deacon Seán

Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.

SVP CHRISTMAS LUNCH Monday 8 December in the Hall at 1.00 pm

Booking is now open for the annual SVP Christmas lunch.

There will be a full Christmas meal and some seasonal entertainment.

No charge for those on a low income but a suggested donation of £15 for all others.

Please email beckenhamsvp@gmail.com or call 07784 497 482 and leave a message or text/WA to reserve your place, to advise of any dietary requirements or to arrange transport.

Our Prayer Tree for the Holy Souls is now on the sanctuary.

By our Remembrance Book, you will find blank templates to complete and hang on the tree.

If you are unable to get to St Edmunds, please contact the Parish Office by email who will hang your names for you.

MASS FOR THE BEREAVED

Saturday 15 November at 2.30 pm

During November when we particularly remember those who have gone before us, we are holding a Mass for those who have lost someone dear to them.

All are welcome to attend this Mass and to light a candle for them during the Mass.

Please let the Office know the name you wish to be remembered.

There will be refreshments for all in the Hall afterwards.

LADY CHAPEL REFURBISHMENT

The diocesan expert who needs to advise us on what we can do in the Lady Chapel is still unwell which is why there has been no progress for some months. He will visit us as soon as he is able to travel.

The Church Shop now has Christmas Cards, calendars, 2026 diaries, Christmas candles and children's Christmas books in stock.

Please let Patrick know if there is anything you would like ordered from <https://www.cbcdistribution.co.uk/>

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL



Thank you

Your beautiful shoeboxes flooded in over the weekend and on Monday **94** were collected to join all the others going to Kosovo.

Everyone who came to the Office to give their boxes had a smile on their face; clearly they had enjoyed preparing them. We will never see the smiles on the faces of the recipients, but we know they will be there.

Thank you for your generosity and love in making this a wonderful year for Blythswood.

My dear Parishioners of St. Edmund of Canterbury - Beckenham.

This is to express my sincere gratitude for the Cash gift sent to me through Fr Stephen Wymer. This is quite thoughtful and generous of you. Thanks very sincerely. Be assured of our prayers for you and your families.

May the Lord bless you all from the plenitude of His mercy.

Fr. John Olaniran.

ADMINISTRATOR - PARISH OFFICE

We are looking to recruit a part-time administrator for the Parish Office.

The successful candidate will need good IT skills (including Word, Excel and Publisher) and be comfortable with bookkeeping software. A can-do attitude and a welcoming smile are mandatory.

If you would like to be considered for this position please contact Fr Steve by email stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk with an outline of your experience and why you believe you are well suited for this role.

The closing date for applications is Tuesday 18 November.

AN INVITATION FROM OUR MP

INTERFAITH WEEK COMMUNITY EVENT WITH LIAM CONLON MP

Liam Conlon MP, Member of Parliament for Beckenham and Penge, invites local faith communities to come together to celebrate the positive contribution faith groups make across our area.

 **Date:** Monday 10th November

 **Time:** 5:30pm – 7:30pm

 **Venue:** St George's Church, Beckenham, BR3 1AX

For security reasons and due to limited spaces, RSVP is essential:

Sign up at <https://bit.ly/interfaithweekBP>

Or you can email liam.conlon.mp@parliament.uk or call 020 8016 6604.

Saturday 6 December

11- 4.00 pm in the Church Hall



Lovely Stalls, Hot Food and Drinks in the Cafe,
a Children's Room with Crafts and a
special visit from Father Christmas!

Grand Raffle, Craft, Christmas Wreaths, Tombola, Church Shop,
Children's Room and Claver Sisters Stall

More information will follow but at the moment we are looking for
donations for the Tombola Stall - New or Unwanted gifts, Toiletries and Bottles!

We also need Christmas Decorations to decorate our Hall Christmas Tree!

Please bring any donations to the Office on weekday mornings.

300 CLUB

This year's main prizewinning draw will take place at the Advent Carol Service on Saturday 13 December, so if you are thinking of joining the club, now is a good time to do it.

Membership is £39 pounds for 12 draws with the chance to win one of 36 prizes throughout the year. There is a bumper £250 first prize in December, £100 second prize and a beautiful Xmas hamper as third prize.

Registration forms are at the back of the church so please take one and return it immediately if you would like to be in the Christmas draw.

BAPTISMS AT ST EDMUND'S

If you want to have a child baptised at St Edmund's, you are asked to email the dedicated account beckenhambaptism@rcaos.org.uk

BROMLEY HOMELESS SLEEP OUT 2025

Norah Agiru, one of our parishioners, is joining the Sleep Out on Saturday 15 November. If anyone would like to support her please go to her Justgiving page at: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/norah-agiru-1?newPage=true>

There is a poster in the porch.

MASSES

Sun 9 Nov	The Dedication of The Lateran Basilica
6.00 pm VIGIL	Delisa & Crescenzo Panetta RIP
8.00 am	Sean Connolly RIP
9.30 am	For the people
11.00 am	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY For the dead of both world wars <i>Please arrive before 11.00 am so the Two Minutes Silence can be observed.</i>
5.30 pm	Howard & Piatek Families RIP
Mon 10 Nov	St Leo the Great
10.00 am	Brian Lennon RIP
	No Adoration
11.30 am	Requiem of Betty Stephens
Tues 11 Nov	St Martin of Tours
10.00 am	Requiem of Mary Totterdell
Wed 12 Nov	St Josaphat
10.00 am	Ints of Bernie Walsh
8.00 pm	Charismatic Mass in Hall
Thurs 13 Nov	Feria (St Frances Xavier Cabrini)
10.00 am	Benefactors & promoters of the Claver Sisters
6.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration
Friday 14 Nov	Feria
10.00 am	Monica Grima RIP
Sat 15 Nov	Feria
10.00 am	A private intention
2.30 am	Mass for the Bereaved
6.00 pm VIGIL	Gervais Virassamy RIP
Sun 16 Nov	Thirty-third Sunday World Day of the Poor Feast of St Edmund of Canterbury
8.00 am	For the people
9.30 am	Edmund Mayunge RIP
11.00 am LATIN	Eily Moore RIP
5.30 pm	Sandy Baron RIP

Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm, and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after morning Mass from Monday to Saturday, unless otherwise announced.

We pray for all who have died:

Betty Stephens, Rosemary Horsley, Patrick Gunning, Mary Totterdell, Jonathan Panglose, Joseph Maximé, Michael Waldron.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Cardinal Heenan, Fr Robin Mountford, Mary Ward, Patricia Ross, Eddie Finch, John Basquill, Madeline Ellis, Maureen Tyler, John Pedler, James Hussey, Michael Sullivan, John Taylor, Frank Bond, Elsie Callaghan, Brian Cardell, Margaret Feagan, John O'Sullivan, Elizabeth Rourke, Rosi Baruffi, Robert Reed.

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woppard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Zygmunt Sobelewski, James Creedon, Sarah-Marie Kench, Duncan, Grace, Nora Haugh, Sue Shaw, Linda Magness, Charles, John Warren Dene, Marie Alford.

DIARY

November

Mon 10	Requiem for Betty Stephens at 11.30
Tues 11	Requiem for Mary Totterdell at 10.00
Sat 15	Mass for the Bereaved at 2.30 followed by refreshments in the Hall
Wed 19	Requiem of Patrick Gunning at 11.15

December

Sat 6	Christmas Fair
Mon 8	SVP Christmas lunch
Sat 13	Advent Carol Service

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from 5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of each month and bank holidays.
Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence



ARCHBISHOP'S APPEAL RETIRING COLLECTION 9 NOVEMBER

This mandatory diocesan collection funds three key mission areas: Youth and Evangelization, Our Faith in Action and Clergy Care and Formation.

It expresses something vital about who we are as a family of faith in Southwark.

- Donate Online: rcaos.org.uk/archbishops-appeal
- Or Scan QR Code using telephone camera (right)
- Telephone weekdays 9 am – 5 pm: 020 7960 2504·

Cash / Cheque – please use the Archbishop's Appeal envelopes at the back of church



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Website: www.saintedmunds.net

Parish Office - Phone: 020 8650 0970 - Email: beckenham@rcaos.org.uk

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Boniface Arapa - bonifacearapa@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk

Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardraos.org.uk

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915

sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com

Sunday 2 November 2025 Yr C



The Retiring Collection
is for the SVP.

ALL SAINTS ALL SOULS

These are usually celebrated on the first and second of November. I have lived in both France and Italy where All Saints Day is a public holiday and, even in this secular age, is well observed in French and Italian society, in the same way that 'cultural Christians' in this country celebrate Christmas and Easter and would eat pancakes on Shrove Tuesday. In fact, when I lived in France, I was surprised when a Jewish lady I knew said she would be visiting her Jewish relatives graves during the holiday. If you are in France at this time the florists will all be selling chrysanthemums, as this is the flower typically taken to the cemetery. Don't make the mistake of taking a bunch to give to your hostess at a dinner party though, as chrysanthemums are considered the flower of death and mourning. It would be a bit like taking her a wreath.

As people may only have the public holiday itself off work, the cemetery visits for All Souls that day are thus made a day earlier than they should be. The French and Italians have half an excuse in confusing the two celebrations due to the holiday, but many English Catholics do the same. On All Saints Day the liturgical colour is white as we celebrate not only all the canonised saints but also all those 'little people' who lived a hidden life of sanctity, but have never been formally recognised as saints. Pope Francis used to have a very apt phrase; 'the saints next door.' He meant not just those living literally next door, but those who live around us and whom we meet in our daily lives. Those who, quietly and without fuss, simply do the will of God.

On All Souls Day the priest wears purple or black- these colours are used for the Requiem Mass on Remembrance

Sunday as well - as we remember the Holy Souls in purgatory, those who have died in God's friendship but who have not yet progressed enough in sanctity to enter heaven straight away. The Bible tells us 'Nothing unclean will ever enter it' (heaven) Revelation 21:27. So on All Souls Day, and for the rest of November, the emphasis shifts to praying for the faithful departed. The prayers and masses we offer for them help them to stay firm in their resolve to purify themselves, 'It is a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins.' 2 Maccabees 12:46. (Douay-Rheims.) This verse, from an Old Testament book set in the second century BC, shows that the Jews prayed for the dead. Martin Luther and other Protestants rejected the concept of praying for the dead and Catholic teaching on purgatory. They rejected 2 Maccabees and other books, e.g. Tobit, Wisdom, Baruch, that had always been in Christian Bibles. These were in the Septuagint translation of the Old Testament used by the early Christians, but Luther restricted the list of books of his Old Testament to a shorter list of books drawn up by Jewish rabbis after the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in AD 70. That is why Protestant Bibles have fewer books than Catholic and Greek Orthodox ones. Some Protestants will loudly insist there is no Biblical warrant for praying for the dead, but they are not using the same Old Testament as the first Christians! Catholic and Greek Orthodox Christians continue to pray for the faithful departed as they have always done, considering this to be a "Holy and wholesome thought."

Fr Andrew Bishop

Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

Please keep these coming.



Our Prayer Tree for the Holy Souls will be on the sanctuary this weekend.

At the back of the church, by our Remembrance Book, you will find blank templates for you to complete and then hang on the tree.

If you can't get to St Edmunds, then please contact the Parish Office by email beckenham@rcaos.org.uk - please mark the subject box 'Holy Souls' and include the names of your friends and family, or **Tel: 020 8650 0970** and your flower will be completed and then placed on our tree on your behalf.

Thank you



Month of the Holy Souls

ADMINISTRATOR - PARISH OFFICE

We are looking to recruit a part-time administrator for the Parish Office.

The successful candidate will need good IT skills (including Word, Excel and Publisher) and be comfortable with bookkeeping software. A can-do attitude and a welcoming smile are mandatory 😊

If you would like to be considered for this position please contact Fr Steve by email stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk with an outline of your experience and why you believe you are well suited for this role.

MASS FOR THE BEREAVED

Saturday 15 November at 2.30 pm

During November when we particularly remember those who have gone before us, we are holding a Mass for those who have lost someone dear to them.

If you wish to light a candle for them during the Mass please let the Office know the name you wish to be remembered.

There will be refreshments for all in the Hall afterwards.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETNG

Church Hall, Wednesday 5 November

7.45 pm Praise and worship

8.00 pm Holy Mass

Celebrant to be advised

Followed by Fellowship

10.00 pm Evening concludes.

LAW SURGERY

Law Surgery is this **Monday 3 November**

Please come to the side door of the Hall at 6.00 pm and you will be seen in turn.

A DAY WITH MARY

Westminster Cathedral

Saturday 8 November

Further information is available at

<https://www.adaywithmary.org/>

or <https://eventcatholic.com/>

As we have been unable to arrange a date for Fr John Olaniran to visit us for a farewell party, Fr Steve will give him a cheque from the parish at his Induction Mass this evening (Friday).

Thank you for your generosity.

AN INVITATION FROM OUR MP

INTERFAITH WEEK COMMUNITY EVENT WITH LIAM CONLON MP

Liam Conlon MP, Member of Parliament for Beckenham and Penge, invites local faith communities to come together to celebrate the positive contribution faith groups make across our area.

⌚ **Date:** Monday 10th November

⌚ **Time:** 5:30pm – 7:30pm

⌚ **Venue:** St George's Church, Beckenham, BR3 1AX

For security reasons and due to limited spaces, RSVP is essential:

Sign up at <https://bit.ly/interfaithweekBP>

Or you can email liam.conlon.mp@parliament.uk or call **020 8016 6604**.

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL



Today is the last day to drop off your box.

So far we have over 50 boxes, some cash donations and many loose items.

COLOMA MASS OF REMEMBRANCE TUESDAY 25 NOVEMBER AT 4.00 PM

Coloma Convent Girls' School is holding a Mass of Remembrance to remember all deceased Coloma students, staff & family members. Families of those who have died are warmly invited to attend this Mass which will take place at the school.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP to liturgy@coloma.co.uk by 18 November giving the name of your loved one so that they can be remembered at this Mass.



Saturday 6 December

11-4.00 pm in the Church Hall



Lovely Stalls, Hot Food and Drinks in the Cafe, a Children's Room with Crafts and a special visit from Father Christmas!



Grand Raffle, Craft, Christmas Wreaths, Tombola, Church Shop, Children's Room and Claver Sisters Stall

More information will follow but at the moment we are looking for donations for the Tombola Stall - New or Unwanted gifts, Toiletries and Bottles!

We also need Christmas Decorations to decorate our Hall Christmas Tree!

Please bring any donations to the Office on weekday mornings.



Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

CAFOD World Gifts

As the countdown to Christmas begins, why not start giving with World Gifts.

Every purchase helps families overcome poverty, build brighter futures and celebrate Christmas with dignity. Discover more of our gifts by visiting cafod.org.uk/worldgifts.



Teach someone to read
£12.00



Water for a family
£35.00



Sewing kit
£22.00



Trees for life
£8.00



Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

At the end of the summer you, the St Edmund's parishioners signed the global church petition calling for the cancellation of unfair debts, a need to build better financial systems and implement fairer laws to prevent future debt crises.

Please help CAFOD to reach our target
We're currently 203 away from 10,000 signatures
<https://action.cafod.org.uk/page/164876/action/1>

Thank you

MASSES	
Sun 2 Nov	All Saints
6.00 pm VIGIL	Anthony Griffith RIP (33rd anniv)
8.00 am	Bustard & Baker Families
9.30 am	Colm Ruddy RIP
11.00 am	Dr Michael Ekong, Caroline Aaele, Mary & John Edet RIP, & dec'd members of the Edet & Ekong Families.
5.30 pm	Pro populo
Mon 3 Nov	THE COMMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED ALL SOULS DAY
7.30 am	William & Patricia Ross RIP
10.00 am	Keith Roy Kench RIP, Ken, Karl & Karen & their parents Henry & Margaret Kench RIP
Noon	Helen Donnelly RIP
6.30 pm	Dec'd members of the O'Connor, Breen & Murray Families
Tues 4 Nov	St Charles Borromeo
10.00 am	Stan Ziolek RIP
12.30 pm	Requiem of Peter Kuhn
<i>No evening Mass at St Mark's as there is work being done in the church.</i>	
Wed 5 Nov	Feria
10.00 am	Fr Tomas Creagh-Fuller RIP (anniv)
7.30 pm	Charismatic Mass in Hall
Thurs 6 Nov	Feria
10.00 am	For the deceased Claver Sisters
6.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration & Benediction
Friday 7 Nov	The Dedication of the Cathedral Church of St George
10.00 am	Margaret & Charles Paes RIP & their son Malcolm RIP
7.00 pm	Esseline Nunes d'Agretta
Sat 8 Nov	Feria
10.00 am	Bridie Gitter RIP
Noon	Jubilee Mass
6.00 pm VIGIL	Delisa & Crescenzo Panetta RIP
Sun 9 Nov	The Dedication of The Lateran Basilica
8.00 am	Sean Connolly RIP
9.30 am	For the people
11.00 am	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY For the dead of both world wars
<i>Please arrive before 11.00 am so the Minute's Silence can be observed.</i>	
5.30 pm	Howard & Piatek Families RIP

Confessions are every Saturday from
10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm,
and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and
Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after
morning Mass from Monday to Saturday,
unless otherwise announced.

We pray for all who have died:

Paul Stone, Peter Kuhn, Betty Stephens, Rosemary Horsley, Patrick Gunning, Mary Totterdell, Jonathan Panglose and Joseph Maximé.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Brian Herring, John McKeon, Michelle Kuhn, Patricia Furlong, Kathleen Roche, Fr Desmond Trant-McCarthy, Margery May, Fr Martin Breen, Brian Cooper, Harry Leamon, Mark Parsons, Fr John Redford, Valentine Potts, Sandra Richards, Jim Byrne, Eileen Hixson, Dorrien Flood, Mary Phelan.

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woppard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Zygmunt Sobelewski, James Creedon, Sarah-Marie Kench, Duncan, Grace, Nora Haugh, Sue Shaw, Linda Magness, Charles, John Warren Dene.

DIARY

November

Mon 3	Law Surgery at 6.00 in the Hall Meeting Room
Tues 4	Requiem for Peter Kuhn at 12.30
Mon 10	Requiem for Betty Stephens at 11.30
Tues 11	Requiem for Mary Totterdell at 10.00
Sat 15	Mass for the Bereaved at 2.30 followed by refreshments in the Hall
Wed 19	Requiem of Patrick Gunning at 11.15

December

Sat 6	Christmas Fair
Sat 13	Advent Carol Service

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from
5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of
each month and bank holidays.
Please respect the need to arrive promptly and
observe the silence



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Website: www.saintedmunds.net

Parish Office - Phone: 020 8650 0970 - Email: beckenham@rcaos.org.uk

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Boniface Arapa - bonifacearapa@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk

Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardraos.org.uk

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915

sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com

Sunday 26 October 2025 Yr C



There is no second collection this week.

EUCARISTIC MINISTERS

Fr Steve and the other clergy have asked me to write to you about becoming ministers of the eucharist. Technically lay people become "extraordinary" ministers of the eucharist. "Extraordinary" is "church jargon" contrasting with the "ordinary" ministers of Holy Communion who are the priests and deacons.

When they think of eucharistic ministers, people think about the distribution of Holy Communion at Mass, and we could indeed do with some more assistance at Mass, but there is another very important reason for asking. One of the roles of an extraordinary eucharistic minister is to take Holy Communion to the sick. We simply no longer have enough priests and deacons to do this. And as a parish we have not been so good at this, especially since Covid, when people became reluctant to go into peoples' homes. It is a sad truth that some of our elderly have been somewhat neglected. I am ashamed to say that people who have been faithful Catholics all their lives, even daily Mass goers, have sometimes slipped through the cracks. We are currently looking at our lists to update them as the first step towards improvement. We would ask anyone who has a friend, relative or neighbour who is in need of a visit or Holy Communion to contact the office - *and with their consent* - give contact details. We are aiming for people to be visited on a more regular basis: they should see a priest regularly, though not every time. If lay ministers are able to take communion on the other occasions, we should be able to visit more people on a more regular basis and also make sure everyone has a chance to see a priest. If someone felt able to help with the admin and check that people are being visited regularly

and on a fair basis, this would help too. Someone taking just an hour or so to check, once a fortnight, would be a great help. This job could be done by one of the eucharistic ministers or by someone who would not be comfortable with visiting people in their homes, but wishes to help alleviate this problem.

Of course, eucharistic ministers are needed to help with Mass but they can also, with permission, expose or repose the Blessed Sacrament. They are not allowed to do the blessing with the monstrance, as this is reserved to priests and deacons. However, even to enable simple exposition is a worthwhile ministry: as the number of priests reduces this may be a great benefit to the community.

Eucharistic Ministers can also conduct eucharistic services when no priest is available. Now this is not to say that ALL eucharistic ministers must do this, most don't or wouldn't feel comfortable so doing, but it is just an indication of the importance of this ministry. Would-be ministers must, however undergo the usual safeguarding checks, due to their interactions with vulnerable adults, and the necessary training.

In the near future clergy will be asking people if they would like to consider undertaking this ministry. If you are asked, do give it your consideration.

**Fr Andrew
on behalf of the Clergy Team**



Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

We are building up a box of little religious books for children to look at whilst they are in church. We have made a start by purchasing some and hope that parishioners will be happy to donate books that their children have grown out of.

The box will be on the table in the centre aisle for the next few weeks to receive your donations.



Thank you to those who have already brought books in.

Our Prayer Tree for the Holy Souls will be on the sanctuary from 1 November.

At the back of the church, by our Remembrance Book, you will find blank templates for you to complete and then hang on the tree.

If you are unable to get to St Edmunds, then please contact the Parish Office by email beckenham@rcaos.org.uk - please mark the subject box 'Holy Souls' and include the names of your friends and family, or **Tel: 020 8650 0970** and your flower will be completed and then placed on our tree on your behalf.

Thank you



Month of the Holy Souls

MASS FOR THE BEREAVED

Saturday 15 November at 2.30 pm

During November when we particularly remember those who have gone before us, we are holding a Mass for those who have lost someone dear to them.

If you wish to light a candle for them during the Mass please let the Office know the name you wish to be remembered.

There will be refreshments for all in the Hall afterwards.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETNG

Church Hall, Wednesday 29 October

7.45 pm Praise and worship

8.00 pm Holy Mass

Celebrant Fr Boniface Arapa

Followed by Fellowship

10.00 pm Evening concludes.

JOIN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK WHATSAPP CHANNEL

For the latest updates in the Archdiocese of Southwark, including reflections and homilies from Archbishop John Wilson, as well as prayers and music, join the WhatsApp channel. The channel aims to help you draw closer to the Lord Jesus through engaging and prayerful content, so please subscribe and share.

Join via this link
rcaos.org.uk/whatsapp



BETTY STEPHENS RIP

Betty Stephens and her family moved to Beckenham in the 1960's and have been active members of the parish since then.

Betty was greatly involved in the parish community. She enjoyed supporting the parish in many ways, often having training priests staying at the family home, running many different stalls at the Christmas Fair, making soft toys to sell, progressing to the White Elephant Stall in later years. No job was refused by Betty.

She was a kind and considerate lady, caring for the sick and elderly, assisting the altar servers each Sunday, working at the jumble sales for the Scouts and she set up and participated in many other groups within the parish, which enabled many to develop a good social life and friendships within the parish.

Betty's faith allowed her to enjoy being active within the parish and she always said that being part of the community was very rewarding and she had made many true friends over the years.

Betty's requiem will be on 10 November at 11.30 am and all parishioners who knew Betty are invited to attend.

Dawn Smith (daughter)

ENTRY INTO CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS 2026

Sunday 23 November

10.30 - 12.30 pm in Meeting Room in the Hall

This is the last session for parents and carers applying to a Catholic primary school to have a Certificate of Catholic Practice signed by a priest.

Due to the volume of applications we are not able to arrange individual appointments.

Certificates of Catholic Practice can be downloaded online but there will be copies available if needed.

REQUEST FOR HELP

One of our parishioners, Charles Clarke, is writing an academic paper for the University of Cambridge on Catholics' attitude to money.

He would like to ask parishioners if anyone could spend 20 mins to speak to him for his paper. You won't be named in it, and no personal questions will be asked about areas such as income. You just need to be working, and based in the UK. Please contact him at:

coachhouse.clarke@gmail.com
0750 394 0139

ROSEMARY HORSLEY RIP

Rosemary's Requiem Mass will be on Thursday 13 November at 12.00 pm in Goring on Thames.

We have full details in the Office so please contact us if you would like to see these.

2026 SOUTHWARK DIRECTORY

We will be placing our order for the 2026 edition of the Southwark Directory at the end of the month.

The cost is £7.50 for a spiral bound copy and £6.50 for a plain binding.

We will not be ordering extra copies to sell so if you wish to have one, please let the Office know by **1 November** which type you want and post your payment through the Office door.



COLOMA MASS OF REMEMBRANCE TUESDAY 25 NOVEMBER AT 4.00 PM

Coloma Convent Girls' School is holding a Mass of Remembrance to remember all deceased Coloma students, staff & family members. Families of those who have died are warmly invited to attend this Mass which will take place at the school.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP to liturgy@coloma.co.uk by 18 November indicating the name of your loved one so that they can be remembered at this Mass.

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL



There is just one week left for you to fill a shoebox for Kosovo. Leaflets giving guidance are on the reading slope.

Boxes can be dropped off until Sunday 2 November.

Please don't bring them any later than the 2nd as they will miss the collection and we are unable to store any boxes.

The Office is filled with so many beautifully wrapped boxes, but there is room for more.

Thank you so much for your generosity every year in responding to this wonderful appeal.



ADMINISTRATOR - PARISH OFFICE

We are looking to recruit a part-time administrator for the Parish Office.

The successful candidate will need good IT skills (including Word, Excel and Publisher) and be comfortable with bookkeeping software. A can-do attitude and a welcoming smile are mandatory 😊

If you would like to be considered for this position please contact Fr Steve by email stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk with an outline of your experience and why you believe you are well suited for this role.

MASSES

Sun 26 Oct	Thirtieth Sunday
6.00 pm VIGIL	Dec'd brothers of Beckenham Catenians
8.00 am	For the people
9.30 am	Baby Arthur Gregory RIP and healing of parents & grandparents
11.00 am	Rosemary Elmer RIP
NO CHORALE	There will be the baptism of baby Astrid during this Mass
5.30 pm	Margaret Paes RIP
Mon 27 Oct	Feria
10.00 am	Janet Maureen Dunn Browne RIP & dec'd family members
Tues 28 Oct	Sts Simon & Jude, Apostles
10.00 am	Sarah Walsh RIP
Wed 29 Oct	Feria
10.00 am	For healing
7.30 pm	Charismatic Mass in Hall
Thurs 30 Oct	Feria
10.00 am	Colin Dowling RIP
6.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration
Friday 31 Oct	Feria
10.00 am	Carmel Fahey RIP
Sat 1 Nov	Feria (The Blessed Virgin Mary)
10.00 am	Colin Dowling RIP
6.00 pm VIGIL	Anthony Griffith RIP (33rd anniv)
Sun 2 Nov	All Saints
8.00 am	Bustard & Baker Families
9.30 am	Colm Ruddy RIP
11.00 am	Dr Michael Ekong, Caroline Aaele, Mary & John Edet RIP, & dec'd members of the Edet & Ekong Families.
5.30 pm	Pro populo

Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm, and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after morning Mass from Monday to Saturday, unless otherwise announced.



We pray for all who have died:

Paul Stone, Peter Kuhn, Betty Stephens, Rosemary Horsley, Patrick Gunning, Mary Totterdell, Jonathan Panglose.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Bernard Grey, Constance Baker, Clive Rumsey, Patricia Forsyth, Joan Conrath, David Edwards, Stella Ighodaro, Frank Mattinson, Sadie Keegan, Pauline Estorquia, Colin Dowling

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woppard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Zygmunt Sobolewski, James Creedon, Sarah-Marie Kench, Duncan, Grace, Nora Haugh, Sue Shaw, Linda Magness, Charles, John Warren Dene.

DIARY

October

Friday 24 Requiem for William Kelly at 12.30
Sat 25 Contemplative Saturday in Hall from 11-12

November

Monday 3 Law Surgery at 6.00
Tuesday 4 Requiem for Peter Kuhn at 12.30
Mon 10 Requiem for Betty Stephens at 11.30
Tues 11 Requiem for Mary Totterdell at 10.00
Sat 15 Mass for the Bereaved at 2.30 followed by refreshments in the Hall

December

Sat 6 Christmas Fair
Sat 13 Advent Carol Service

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from 5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of each month and bank holidays.

Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence

Contemplative Saturday is on **25 October** in the Hall from 11.00 am until noon.



Clocks go back on Saturday night

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Website: www.saintedmunds.net
Parish Office - Phone: 020 8650 0970 - Email: beckenham@rcaos.org.uk
Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk
Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk
Fr Boniface Arapa - bonifacearapa@rcaos.org.uk
Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk
Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardraos.org.uk
Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915
sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com

Sunday 19 October 2025 Yr C



Retiring collection is for MISSIO

WHY CATHOLICS GO TO HOLY MASS

Holy Mass is a communal gathering where Catholics come together as a community of believers to worship and be united with God and with one another. It is considered the highest form of worship, and a way to give thanks and praise to God for all that he has done for us. It is also a central re-enactment of the last supper when Jesus was with his disciples, and a memorial of His sacrifice on the cross. During Holy Mass Catholics receive the Body and Blood of Christ in the Eucharist, which provides spiritual strength and grace.

Hence attending Mass is essential spiritual food, providing the necessary words and sacrament, to avoid spiritual weakness and emptiness. It is an opportunity for Catholics to be sorry for their sins and receive forgiveness from God.

Nowadays however, not many people take going to Mass seriously. Some people attend Mass online, even when they have no reason to. Others listen to Mass on radios and televisions. From the time COVID struck to now, Mass attendance the world over has declined. For instance, in our church the attendance has dropped from an average of 1035 pre covid to 653 in the count just carried out. It is worth noting that the normal way of attending Holy Mass is for the members of the Christian community to come together to the church or to a community as circumstances may allow and other ways are exceptional. (We do of course give thanks that our housebound parishioners are able to join with us each day on our live streamed Masses and receive communion at home thanks to our Eucharistic Ministers and the clergy team).

Let it be clear to us that if we miss going to Mass, we miss that aspect of "coming together as a community of believers" therefore our community life is weakened. We also miss receiving the Body and Blood of Christ, thereby missing the spiritual food, which cannot be received through attending Mass online or through other channels.

If there is not a compelling reason, let us not avoid coming to Mass in person, so that we can build our spiritual life and strengthen our community life too.

Could each one of us reach out to a friend who has not attended Mass for some good time, and in a loving way explain to the friend and encourage them to resume Mass attendance for their spiritual wellbeing and for the growth of the church.

Thank you,

Fr Arapa Boniface

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

This Sunday is World Mission Sunday. The Holy Father invites all Catholics to support Missio, his charity for world mission, through a special collection. This day of prayer, solidarity and giving unites Catholics worldwide to share the Good News of God's love which has the power to transform lives and heal our world.

To donate, use the Missio envelopes, call 020 7821 9755 or visit <https://missio.org.uk/> to give a gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation, if possible.

2026 SOUTHWARK DIRECTORY



We will shortly be placing our order for the 2026 edition of the Southwark Directory. The price is £7.50 for a spiral bound copy and £6.50 for a plain binding. We will not be ordering extra copies to sell so if you wish to have one please let the Office know by November 1 which type you want and post your payment through the Office door.

Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion

FR JOHN OLANIRAN

31 October at 7.00 pm

St Theresa of the Infant Jesus

Haig Rd, Biggin Hill, Westerham TN16 3LJ

Fr John would be delighted to welcome his St Edmund's friends at his Induction Mass.

If anyone thinking of attending would let the Office know we might be able to arrange car shares, or a minibus.

Please get in touch by Wednesday 22nd.

SEEKING FACILITATORS

The Southwark Marriage and Family Life (M&FL) Team are seeking married couples who are practising Catholics to join their growing team to present courses for Marriage Preparation, Building a Better Marriage and other initiatives in 2026. **Salary:** £30,000 pro rata (£7,000) for the couple. Mileage paid in addition. All training given. For full job description and further details, please contact liamgallagher@rcaos.org.uk Closing date for applications is **October 31st**.

300 Club

Congratulations to our October draw winners:

Barbara Ferrando £100

Mary O'Toole £50

Matthew Watchorn £25

**Please consider joining the 300 Club.
It is £39 for 12 monthly draws.**

Email Isabelle Blake-James
at iblakejames@talktalk.net if you would
like to find out more.

BOOKS FOR THE CHILDREN



Pre covid we had a box at the back of the church full of little religious books for young children to look at during Mass. We should like to re-start this and hope that parishioners would be happy to donate religious books that their children have grown out of, or would be happy to purchase some to donate for the box. The box will be on the table in the centre aisle this weekend. Thank you

JOIN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK WHATSAPP CHANNEL

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Join via this link
rcaos.org.uk/whatsapp
or by scanning the QR code.



MASS FOR THE BEREAVED

Saturday 15 November at 2.30 pm

During November when we particularly remember those who have gone before us, we are holding a Mass for those who have lost someone dear to them.

If you wish to light a candle for them during the Mass please let the Office know the name you wish to be remembered.

There will be refreshments for all in the Hall afterwards.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

Church Hall, Wednesday 22 October

7.45 pm Praise and worship

8.00 pm Holy Mass

Celebrant Fr Antony Megalan Sellum
Followed by Adoration before the
Blessed Sacrament with healing
ministry.

10.00 pm Evening concludes.

The team preparing Christmas Wreaths for the Parish Christmas Fair would be grateful for any unwanted Christmas decorations. You can leave your donations at the Office and we will pass them on.

Please take a moment to look through your boxes of decorations and donate items you no longer use.



ENTRY INTO CATHOLIC PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS 2026

All applications to Catholic schools need to be accompanied by a Certificate of Catholic Practice signed by a priest.

There are two remaining signing sessions:

Sunday 19 October

10.30 - 12.30 pm in Meeting Room in the Hall

Sunday 23 November

10.30 - 12.30 pm in Meeting Room in the Hall

Please attend at the designated times. Due to the volume of applications we are not able to arrange individual appointments.

Certificates of Catholic Practice can be downloaded online but there will be copies available if needed.

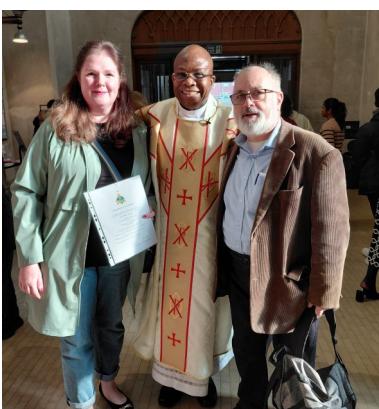
BECOMING AN EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION

I run a local home care service (Capable Care), and during the pandemic it became clear that some of our clients and other parishioners couldn't get to Mass to receive Communion. I wanted to help, and when St Edmund's invited volunteers to become Eucharistic Ministers, I responded.

I'll admit, I initially thought it was something for the especially holy or those who knew a lot of theology — but I was wrong. Being an Extraordinary Minister isn't about being perfect; it's about helping with one of the most sacred parts of Mass — sharing the Eucharist.

Last Saturday I attended a Formation Day at St George's Cathedral which was relaxed and uplifting, with two talks, a session of adoration, and Mass. Over 70 people from across the Diocese — from teenagers to people in their 80s — took part. Everyone shared the same simple desire: to help make this part of the Mass run smoothly.

If you'd like to serve in this way, please speak to one of the clergy team



Anne-Marie and Leon, with Canon Victor Darlington at St George's Cathedral

ROOTED IN LOVE - AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MARRIED AND ENGAGED COUPLES

Want to grow closer as a couple while deepening your faith and meeting new people?

All engaged and married couples are invited to a **monthly online meeting** where we share friendship, reflect on real-life topics, and pray together as we grow in love rooted in Christ.

Gathering monthly on Zoom **Thursdays**: 30 October at 8:30pm, 27 November at 8:30pm, 11 December at 8:30pm

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL



Unbelievable but it is Christmas shoebox time of year again!



Leaflets for this year's appeal are at the back of church; it would be wonderful if you could fill a box for our St Edmund's Blythswood appeal this year. Once again, all the boxes we collect will be distributed in Kosovo.

There is more information about the 2025 shoebox appeal and videos of last year's boxes being distributed on Blythswood's website <https://blythswood.org/shoeboxappeal/>

If you can share details about the shoebox collection with family and friends to help us collect as many boxes as possible, we would be very grateful.

It is easy to choose gifts for people who have so little. Shampoo, a pair of socks, a notepad, a small toy, a bag of sweets — things we take for granted are luxuries to people living in poverty.

By filling a shoebox with simple things you can bring hope this Christmas.

This year please bring your filled boxes to the Parish Office — boxes can be dropped off until Sunday 2nd November.

If you have any questions, then do get in touch.

Lucienne Vella 07884 184534 or Susie Watchorn 07956 574789.

Thank you so much for your generosity every year with the shoebox appeal.

MASSES

Sun 19 Oct	Twenty-ninth Sunday World Mission Day
6.00 pm VIGIL	Ronald & Eileen Furlong RIP
8.00 am	For the people
9.30 am	For dec'd members of Ransford & Marbach Families
11.00 am LATIN	Fabiola Zorilla RIP (1st anniv)
5.30 pm	Manuel Pampin Mosquera RIP (3rd anniv)
Mon 20 Oct	Feria
10.00 am	Tom & Babs Griffin RIP
Tues 21 Oct	Feria (St Margaret Clitherow) Claire West RIP
Wed 22 Oct	Feria (St John Paul II) Jan & Tim Banfield & Family Charismatic Mass in Hall
Thurs 23 Oct	Feria Theresa & George Halpin RIP
10.00 am	Adoration
Friday 24 Oct	Feria Dushy Devendra (1st anniv) Requiem of William Kelly
Sat 25 Oct	Feria (The Blessed Virgin Mary) Adrian Wyborn RIP Dec'd Brothers of Beckenham Catenians

Sun 26 Oct	Thirtieth Sunday
8.00 am	For the people
9.30 am	Baby Arthur Gregory RIP and healing of parents & grandparents
11.00 am	Rosemary Elmer RIP There will be the baptism of baby Astrid during this Mass
5.30 pm	Margaret Paes RIP

Confessions are every Saturday from
10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm,
and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after morning Mass from Monday to Saturday, unless otherwise announced.



We pray for all who have died: Desmond Johnson, Fr John Ryan, Paul Stone, Fr Patrick Hayward, William Kelly, Marie-Therese Sinon, Peter Kuhn, Rose Westgarth, Betty Stephens, Rosemary Horsley, Edith Emenike, Patrick Gunning.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Christina Pamment, Patricia McGrory, Marie Lavender, Roy Anggiansah, Peter Cole, Eugene Gilkes, Eileen Gallen, Patricia Hitchcock, Mary Holleran, Riccardo Ling, Monica Jones, Rosemary Elmer, Nicholas Beedle, Theresia Halpin, Brian Knowles, France Fleming, Frieda Pereira-Rego, Ann Berry, Louis Bonello, Marguerite Hankin, Denise Ricketts, Margaret Deeks, Pamela Keen.

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woppard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Jessica Ram, Zygmunt Sobelewski, James Creedon, Sarah-Marie Kench, Duncan, Grace, Nora Haugh, Mary Totterdell, Sue Shaw, Linda Magness

DIARY

October

Friday 24 Requiem for William Kelly at 12.30
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November

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December

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Sat 13 Advent Carol Service

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from
5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of
each month and bank holidays.

Please respect the need to arrive promptly and
observe the silence

Contemplative Saturday is on
25 October in the Hall
from 11.00 am until noon.

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Website: www.saintedmunds.net

Parish Office - Phone: 020 8650 0970 - Email: beckenham@rcaos.org.uk

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Boniface Arapa - bonifacearapa@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk

Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardraos.org.uk

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915

sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com

Sunday 12 October 2025 Yr C



No retiring collection this weekend

PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND?

A few weeks ago the Gospel reading at Sunday Mass included the parable of a man who, wanting to accommodate his bumper harvest, tore down his old barns and built bigger ones. He died before he could derive any benefit from them. The reading is from Luke's gospel (12: 13 - 21) and those of you who come to weekday Mass will have the opportunity of hearing it again in just over a week's time.

The story is so arresting that we tend to forget what made Jesus tell it: a man's request for Jesus' help in getting his hands on an inheritance that his brother had refused to pass on to him. For most of us, Jesus' reaction to the man is disconcerting, because he refuses to help. Instead, he warns the man not to be greedy. 'Don't strive to accumulate more than you need for life,' he says, 'what matters is your credit rating with your Father in heaven.' Whether or not we have personal experience of litigation over wills and inheritances, we will all know of such cases, and most of us will have some sympathy with the man that Jesus puts down so uncompromisingly. The thought of anyone being swindled makes us recoil with indignation as something deep within us kicks in; as Machiavelli observed: a man will sooner forget the death of his father than the loss of his inheritance.

As I write this, we are waiting to see if the plan to end the war in Gaza will stick. The root of the conflict is essentially the same as that of the man who sought Jesus' help - though multiplied enormously. Those of us who have happy childhood memories will sigh at the thought of the family home being sold after the death of our parents, but we get over it. However, when what is at stake is not the family home but the land of our birth, or the land of our parents and ancestors, it is a different matter, because that land is where our beliefs, culture and values were nurtured, the source from which we developed our sense of belonging, and of how we fit in on God's earth. Having to let go of it, or being forced out of it, can be an assault on our very identity. For Palestinians, the Holy Land is theirs, as it had been for centuries. Until a hundred years ago it was overwhelmingly a land of Palestinians, and its expropriation in 1948, and their enforced removal from large parts of it, remains, for them, a catastrophe. For Jews, piecing together their sense of self-hood after the horrors their people underwent at the hands of the Nazis and their collaborators, the Holy Land holds a similar place: looking back over two thousand years, they also claim it as theirs. The dispute is not just about real estate and a source of livelihood, but about Palestinian and Jewish people's

sense of themselves, of who they are, of where they belong.

But when both sides claim the same land as being inalienably *theirs*, there can be only one outcome, as, for large numbers in both populations, mounting suspicion gives way to fear and hatred, before escalating, inevitably, into a total demonisation of the other side, until each camp even denies the basic human rights of the other, and seizes land, kidnaps and slaughters hostages, or bombs indiscriminately. And, all the while, nobody has achieved anything worth having.

For decades, masses of Palestinians have lived, been born, died, in poverty, in refugee camps, at first hoping for justice, but descending, as despair kicked in, into a craving for revenge. Zionists, with cruelty, violence, fire and bullets, continue to seize land from Palestinians and to build on it, having then to surround their settlements with razor wire to remain safe against reprisals. Can either side ever have a moment's real peace?

When Jesus advised that man over his inheritance dispute, he said nothing about seeking to be reconciled with his brother, and he refused, point blank, to intervene, not even in the interests of justice. Instead, he homed in on what he saw as the core of the matter, telling the man to guard against believing that possessions can make us happy. It's not an easy lesson for any of us. But suppose the man *did*, somehow, go on to seek justice, in the courts, say. Would peace result? A judge might assign him what was due to him; but the family would probably remain broken, perhaps forever, as both brothers continue to live out their resentment in the years ahead.

Maybe there is a lesson here as we consider the problem of justice in the Holy Land. Peace can only come when both sides back down from a belief that it's about winning and losing. Seventy years of conflict have shown the emptiness of that way of thinking. We must thank God that there have long been many, many people - Jews, Muslims, Christians, Palestinians, Israelis - living together in the Holy Land, who *do* want peace, who have *always* wanted peace. If the proposal for ceasing the war in Gaza can take hold, we can yet hope that the voices of these other people can be heard as the din of gunfire and bombing, and the wailing of the bereaved, and the groaning of the wounded and the destitute, gradually fade away.

Deacon Seán

Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.

"If we do not plan, we plan to fail". My words in last's week newsletter caused some comment and feedback so I am writing Part 2 to you sooner than I expected.

The issue of Supply Priests, which I wrote about last time is an immediate issue, but there is a background to this. In 'The Called to Bear Fruit' booklets we looked at a year ago, the Archbishop asked us to prepare for the future so we can ensure provision for the sacraments when we have fewer priests.

This is a practical issue, whatever your opinion on married priests and woman's ordination is. The Anglicans have both, but their clergy numbers are falling too: 47% of their stipendiary clergy will reach retirement age in the next 12 years and the current rate of ordinations will not replace them.

Things are far from hopeless as there is currently a increase in those discerning the priesthood. And we have help from religious orders like the Franciscans, Carmelites and Spiritans in many parishes of the diocese.

However, we have to plan for clergy retiring over the next few years. Last year the Bishop of Arundel and Brighton - our neighbour, of course - caused some shock when he said he intended to replace the existing 85 parishes with just 11 'Team Parishes'.

Fr Ashley told me in an email the other day that the first of these has now been set up, in

Brighton and Hove. Last October the Bishop of Lancaster told me, at the ordination of one of my colleagues from the Beda, that he was reducing the number of parishes in his diocese from around 90 down to 25 or so. We can't expect Beckenham to escape. *It is useless to speculate on details* - there is consultation with clergy in the near future to decide these - but generally it is clear that parishes are going to be merged and grouped together in a new way. I expect that there will still be more than one priest at St Edmund's but, rather than seeing them as St Edmund's priests exclusively, we need to understand they are priests for other local churches too as they may need to go there on a regular basis.

All of this means extra work for Fr Steve as the local Dean, but it does ensure that needs are met. In some ways it would be good for our over worked catechists and volunteers to do some things - confirmation? - on a deanery basis. Things will be *different* rather than *worse*, but if we plan, they can be *good*. These changes are likely to come into play over the next few years rather than immediately, but they are coming.

Fr Andrew

Source <https://www.psephizo.com/life-ministry/the-demographic-crisis-in-church-of-england-ministry/> accessed 7/10/25



**13 October
2.30 pm
in the Hall**

The Catholic Women's League has invited Roy Peachey from Mary's Meals to speak at their meeting.

Mary's Meals, founded in 2002, provides a nutritious meal every school day for 3 million school children across 16 countries, enabling them to thrive and learn.

Please join the CWL in the Hall on Monday to hear more about the history, important work, and vision of this children's charity.

FR JOHN OLANIRAN

31 October at 7.00 pm

St Theresa of the Infant Jesus
Haig Rd, Biggin Hill, Westerham TN16 3LJ

Fr John would be delighted to welcome his St Edmund's friends at his Induction Mass.

If anyone thinking of attending would let the Office know we might be able to arrange car shares, or a minibus.

Please get in touch by Wednesday 22nd.

FAMILY MASS FORUM

There will be a follow-up meeting for parents and all parishioners in the hall on Tuesday 14 October at 7.00pm where we can further discuss ideas and provision for young families at the 9.30 Mass. We look forward to seeing you there.

ENTRY INTO CATHOLIC PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS 2026

All applications to Catholic schools need to be accompanied by a Certificate of Catholic Practice signed by a priest.

We have arranged three signing sessions so that parents and carers can have their forms signed.

The signing sessions are:

Sunday 12 October - 12.30 - 2.30 pm in the Hall

Thursday 16 October

3.00 - 5.00 pm in Meeting Room in the Hall
6.00 - 8.00 pm in the Presbytery

Sunday 19 October

10.30 - 12.30 pm in Meeting Room in the Hall

These sessions allow parents and carers of children entering **secondary school** sufficient time to submit their forms before the closing date.

There will be a further signing session on:

Sunday 23 November

10.30 - 12.30 pm in Meeting Room in the Hall but this will only be for primary school applicants.

Please attend at the designated times. Due to the volume of applications we are not able to arrange individual appointments.

Certificates of Catholic Practice can be downloaded online but there will be copies available if needed.

URGENT REQUEST FROM THE SVP

A family being helped by our SVP is in urgent need of a table and at least four chairs.

If anyone is able to offer some help please contact: beckenhamsvp@gmail.com or call 07789 497 482 and leave a message or send a text.

Thank you

CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

Church Hall, Wednesday 8 October

7.45 pm Praise and worship

8.00 pm Holy Mass

Celebrant Fr Boniface

Followed by informal prayers ending at 10.00 pm



Baby Loss Awareness Week

BABY LOSS AWARENESS WEEK

The 9th-15th October is Baby Loss Awareness Week, which provides an opportunity for the baby loss community and others to come together to honour and remember the babies we have loved and lost. It is also a time to raise awareness of the profound impact of pregnancy and baby loss, the importance of bereavement support, and the ongoing work needed to improve pregnancy outcomes and save babies' lives.

Here at St Edmund's Church, we have a special Remembrance Tree on the altar where you are invited to add a ribbon with your baby's name. Locally, Beckenham Crematorium will hold a remembrance service called 'Remember Our Babies Ribbon Service' on Wednesday 15th October at 6.30pm in the Chapel.

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL



Unbelievable but it is Christmas shoebox time of year again!

Leaflets for this year's appeal are at the back of church; it would be wonderful if you could fill a box for our St Edmund's Blythswood appeal this year. Once again, all the boxes we collect will be distributed in Kosovo.

There is more information about the 2025 shoebox appeal and videos of last year's boxes being distributed on Blythswood's website <https://blythswood.org/shoeboxappeal/>

If you can share details about the shoebox collection with family and friends to help us collect as many boxes as possible, we would be very grateful.

It is easy to choose gifts for people who have so little. Shampoo, a pair of socks, a notepad, a small toy, a bag of sweets – things we take for granted are luxuries to people living in poverty.

By filling a shoebox with simple things you can bring hope this Christmas.

This year please bring your filled boxes to the Parish Office – boxes can be dropped off until Sunday 2nd November.

If you have any questions, then do get in touch.

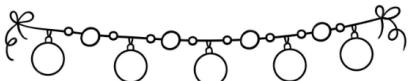
Lucienne Vella 07884 184534 or Susie Watchorn 07956 574789.

MASSES

Sun 12 Oct	Twenty-eighth Sunday
	Day of Prayer for Prisoners & their families
6.00 pm VIGIL	Delisa & Crescenzo Panetta RIP
8.00 am	For the people
9.30 am	Arthur Quinn RIP
	First Holy Communion Enrolment Mass
11.00 am	Katie Severs RIP
5.30 pm	Edward Piatek RIP
Mon 13 Oct	St Edward the Confessor
10.00 am	Anna Knell RIP
Tues 14 Oct	Feria
	Monica Grima RIP
12.00 pm	Requiem of Maude Herring
Wed 15 Oct	St Teresa of Jesus (of Avila)
10.00 am	Baby Charlotte Flannery RIP
	No Adoration
7.30 pm	Charismatic Mass in Hall
Thurs 16 Oct	Feria
10.00 am	Dec'd benefactors & promoters of the Claver Sisters
6.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration
Friday 17 Oct	St Ignatius of Antioch
10.00 am	Clara Mayungbe (b'day)
Sat 18 Oct	St Luke, Evangelist
10.00 am	Piers Hanlon RIP
6.00 pm VIGIL	Ronald & Eileen Furlong RIP
Sun 19 Oct	Twenty-ninth Sunday
	World Mission Day
8.00 am	For the people
9.30 am	For dec'd members of Ransford & Marbach Families
11.00 am	Fabiola Zorilla RIP (1st anniv)
LATIN	
5.30 pm	Manuel Pampin Mosquera RIP (3rd anniv)
	Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm, and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after morning Mass from Monday to Saturday, unless otherwise announced.

The team preparing Christmas Wreaths for the Parish Christmas Fair would be grateful for any unwanted Christmas decorations. You can leave your donations at the Office and we will pass them on. Thank you



We pray for all who have died: Desmond Johnson, Fr John Ryan, Maude Herring, Paul Stone, Fr Patrick Hayward, William Kelly, Monica Lajwii, Marie-Therese Sinon, Peter Kuhn, Rose Westgarth, Betty Stephens.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: William Fitzgerald, Anna Knell, John Wallis, Peter Fagan Snr, Geoffrey Burnham, Frances Wilson, James McGilloway, Poppy Howie, Patrick Cummins, Fr Paul Weir, Billy Cannon, Eileen McGrath, Paula Marbach, Betty Banfield, Christopher Gunapala, Dave Webb, Bernadette Murray, Ilie Florian.

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woppard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Jessica Ram, Zygmunt Sobelewski, James Creedon, Sarah-Marie Kench, Duncan, Grace, Nora Haugh, Marie Benham, Ilean Curry, Mary Totterdell, Sue Shaw, Linda Magness

DIARY

October

Mon 13	CWL Meeting with guest speaker from Mary's Meals. 2.30 in Hall. All welcome
Tues 14	Requiem for Maude Herring at noon.
Sat 18 &	Retreat days for Lectors & Eucharistic
Sat 25	Ministers
Friday 24	Requiem for William Kelly at 12.30
November	
Tuesday 4	Requiem for Peter Kuhn at 12.30
December	
Sat 6	Christmas Fair
Sat 13	Advent Carol Service

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from 5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of each month and bank holidays.
Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence

Contemplative Saturday is on a Saturday once a month from 11.00 am to noon.
Date will be here.

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Website: www.saintedmunds.net
Parish Office - Phone: 020 8650 0970 - Email: beckenham@rcaos.org.uk
Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk
Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk
Fr Boniface Arapa - bonifacearapa@rcaos.org.uk
Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk
Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk
Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915
sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com

Sunday 5 October 2025 Yr C



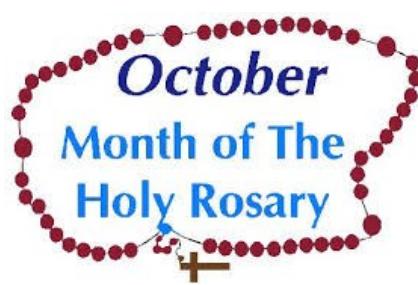
Please return your CAFOD envelope this weekend

"If we do not plan, we plan to fail." About twenty years ago I worked for a headteacher who would say this very often to students to encourage them to draw up a "revision plan" before their exams. I am sure, however, that it applies to many other things. We can never know what the future will hold, both good and bad, and there will always be surprises, but we can be prepared and so look forward without worry and anxiety. The Archbishop is asking us to prepare for the future at a deanery level, so we can weather the challenges that are coming. You will recall the **"Called to Bear Fruit"** booklets and consultation a little while back, and many of you were gracious enough to give your time to give your thoughts about the future.

You will also recall that in July and August we were supposed to have a supply priest from Nigeria. He never arrived due to difficulties and delays obtaining a visa, as I understand it. This reflects a significant tightening due to the present political climate. Since Brexit the visa regime applies equally to priests from the European Union who have to go through exactly the same process and expense, whereas previously they didn't even need to apply for a visa and could help out here for the summer and improve their English at the same time. And there is the not so little issue of expense: *to have a supply priest for just two months would have cost us over £3,000 for visa fees, air fares, etc.* It is a burden small parishes cannot afford.

Given the twin problems of visas and the cost, the Archbishop has decided that next year the archdiocese will not go down the route of trying to get short term supply priests to cover for priests' holidays. Quite simply weekday masses will need to be cancelled while the parish priest is away, and perhaps at weekends. While a priest is away, it may be that the number of masses will have to be temporarily reduced: if parish A and B **both** have a Saturday evening mass at 6 pm and are just a bus ride apart, it would seem logical, if the parish priest at church A is away, that his parishioners will have either to attend a Sunday mass at another time or go to church B for their usual 6 pm time slot. You might think that St Edmund's has a number of priests so that there will be no impact here, but this is not the case. As dean, Fr. Steve will be spending quite a bit of time and effort organising the local clergy to coordinate when they go away so we can all manage, and it is likely that the priests at St Edmund's will have to cover Sunday masses elsewhere. There is no need to panic, we just need to plan for the future. This might not seem so relevant to you, but it seems to me that we have to keep you in the loop about what is going on.

Fr. Andrew



Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.



Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development

CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY

Friday 3 October

Please return your CAFOD envelope in the retiring collection this weekend; if you have misplaced your envelope, there are more at the back of the church. Alternatively, if you prefer to donate online, please go to <http://www.cafod.org.uk/envelope>.

Remember that if you are a UK taxpayer, your donation will be increased by 25% if you gift aid it. Thank you for being a global good neighbour by supporting Cafod's work with the world's poorest communities.

JOIN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK WHATSAPP CHANNEL

For the latest updates in the Archdiocese of Southwark, including reflections and homilies from Archbishop John Wilson, as well as prayers and music, join the WhatsApp channel. The channel aims to help you draw closer to the Lord Jesus through engaging and prayerful content, so please subscribe and share.

Join via this link

rcaos.org.uk/whatsapp

or by scanning the QR code.



CHURCH SHOP

The shop now has calendars and diaries for 2026 in stock so please purchase yours now. More can be ordered as required.

Christmas cards will soon be available.

Patrick who runs the shop is very happy to order nativity sets for you, but they will no longer be kept in stock as they are expensive items. If you would like to purchase a nativity set please take a look at cbcldistributors.co.uk which has beautiful ones which your family will treasure for years.

There are no prices on the website but choose what you would like to purchase and Patrick will find out the price for you and order if requested.



ENTRY INTO CATHOLIC PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS 2026

All applications to Catholic schools need to be accompanied by a Certificate of Catholic Practice signed by a priest.

If you need one of these forms signed, please attend one of the following:

EXTRA DATE ADDED

Sunday 12 October - 12.30-2.30pm in the Hall

Thursday 16 October

3.00 - 5.00 pm in Meeting Room in the Hall
6.00 - 8.00 pm in the Presbytery

Sunday 19 October

10.30 - 12.30 pm in Meeting Room in the Hall

These sessions allow parents and carers of children entering secondary school sufficient time to submit their forms before the deadline.

There will be a further signing session on

Sunday 23 November

10.30 - 12.30 pm in Meeting Room in the Hall but this will only be for primary school applicants.

Please attend at the designated times. Due to the volume of applications we are not able to arrange individual appointments. Certificates of Catholic Practice can be downloaded online but there will be copies available if needed.

The Catholic Women's League has invited Roy Peachey from Mary's Meals to speak at our next meeting on Monday 13th October. Mary's Meals, founded in 2002, provides a nutritious meal every school day for 3 million school children across 16 countries, enabling them to thrive and learn.

Please join us in the parish hall on 13th October at 2.30 pm to hear more about the history, important work, and vision of this children's charity.

mary's meals | a simple solution to world hunger





MARRIAGE SUPPORT Starts 17 October

Does your relationship need some TLC?
Need help with deeper issues?
Contact www.retrouveille.org.uk

BABY LOSS AWARENESS WEEK

The 9th-15th October is Baby Loss Awareness Week, which provides an opportunity for the baby loss community and others to come together to honour and remember the babies we have loved and lost. It is also a time to raise awareness of the profound impact of pregnancy and baby loss, the importance of bereavement support, and the ongoing work needed to improve pregnancy outcomes and save babies' lives.

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PRAY THE ROSARY THIS OCTOBER- WITH ARCHBISHOP JOHN AND THE MARK 10 MISSION

The Rosary Challenge invites you to pray a decade of the Rosary each weekday in October.

The Mark 10 Mission has created beautiful online videos for each mystery of the Holy Rosary, led by Archbishop John.

To watch the videos and learn more, please visit themark10mission.co.uk or The Mark 10 Mission YouTube channel
@themark10mission.

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

Church Hall

Wednesday 8 October

7.45 pm Praise and Worship

8.00 pm Holy Mass

Celebrant Fr Tomasz Margol (Virgo Fidelis)
Followed by Adoration before the Blessed
Sacrament with prayer & praise
10.00pm Evening concludes

A ring has been found at the back of church.
Please contact the parish office if it is yours.



We have been blown away by the generosity of this Parish!

The donations of cakes were astonishing and the donations of money very heart warming. Thank you to all who attended on Saturday morning.

Thankfully, there were enough lovely cakes, to offer to those who attended Mass for the Sick on Saturday afternoon, Sunday morning Teas and Coffees and Monday's Mother and Toddler group as well. In response, everyone was very generous with donations.

A big thank you also goes to the hospitality group for their tireless help and support on that busy Saturday and to the other groups who supported us on Sunday and Monday.

We are delighted to announce we managed to raise £385.65 for Macmillan.



SLEEP OUT 2025

BROMLEY HOMELESS

Sleep outside for one night to raise awareness and funds for homelessness

SATURDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2025
BROMLEY PARISH CHURCH, 7PM

SIGN-UP NOW!

BromleyHomeless.org
Charity Number: 1186655

MASSES

Sun 5 Oct **Twenty-seventh Sunday**
World Day of Prayer for Migrants & Refugees
6.00 pm **VIGIL** Delisa & Crescenzo Panetta RIP
8.00 am The Hilditch family - in thanksgiving
9.30 am Pedro Ibanez RIP (2nd anniv)
11.00 am Rosemary Ekong - in thanksgiving
5.30 pm For the people

Mon 6 Oct **St Bruno**
10.00 am Intentions of Sr Monica

Tues 7 Oct **Our Lady of the Rosary**
Hilda Panglose RIP

Wed 8 Oct **Feria**
10.00 am Dermot Reilly RIP
7.30 pm Charismatic Mass in Hall

Thurs 9 Oct **St John Henry Newman**
10.00 am Ian Scott RIP
6.00 pm **CLAVER** Adoration

Friday 10 Oct **Feria**
10.00 am Franciszek Pietrzyk RIP & family

Sat 11 Oct **St John XXIII, Pope**
10.00 am Intentions of Yvonne O'Keeffe
6.00 pm **VIGIL** Delisa & Crescenzo Panetta RIP

Sun 12 Oct **Twenty-eighth Sunday**
Day of Prayer for Prisoners & their families
8.00 am For the people
9.30 am Arthur Quinn RIP
First Holy Communion Enrolment Mass
11.00 am Katie Severs RIP
5.30 pm Edward Piatek RIP

Confessions are every Saturday from
10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm,
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Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after
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We pray for all who have died: Desmond Johnson, Fr John Ryan. Maude Herring, Paul Stone, Fr Patrick Hayward, William Kelly, Monica Lajwii, Mari-Therese Sinon & Rose Westgarth

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Edith Ransford, Terry Dunn, Annie Spearman, Jenny Greenland, Robert Simpson, George Cornish, George Campbell, Kitty Sharpe, Mauree Teresa Dowling, Mary Olaniran, Albertina Ferrando, Ernest Smith & Kathleen Blackham.

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woollard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Jessica Ram, Zygmunt Sobelewski, James Creedon, Baby Hector Winston, Sarah-Marie Kench, Duncan, Grace, Nora Haugh, Marie Benham, Ilean Curry, Mary Totterdell, Sue Shaw, Nicole Scott & Linda Magness

DIARY

October

Mon 6 Law Surgery at 6.00
Mon 13 CWL Meeting with guest speaker from Mary's Meals. All welcome
Tues 14 Requiem for Maude Herring at noon.
Sat 18 & Retreat days for Lectors & Eucharistic
Sat 25 Ministers
Friday 24 Requiem for William Kelly at 12.30

December

Sat 6 Christmas Fair
Sat 13 Advent Carol Service

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from
5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of
each month and bank holidays.

Please respect the need to arrive promptly and
observe the silence

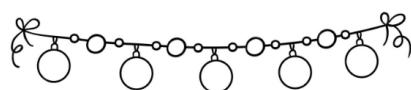
Contemplative Saturday is on a Saturday once
a month from 11.00 am to noon.
Date will be here.



FAMILY MASS FORUM

There will be a follow-up meeting for parents and all parishioners in the hall on Tuesday 14 October at 7.00pm where we can further discuss ideas and provision for young families at the 9.30 Mass. We look forward to seeing you there.

The team preparing Christmas Wreaths for the Parish Christmas Fair would be grateful for any unwanted Christmas decorations. You can leave your donations at the office and we will pass them on. Thank you



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Website: www.saintedmunds.net
Parish Office - Phone: 020 8650 0970 - Email: beckenham@rcaos.org.uk
Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk
Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk
Fr Boniface Arapa - bonifacearapa@rcaos.org.uk
Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk
Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk
Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915
sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com

Sunday 28 September 2025 Yr C



No retiring collection

THE 9.30 FAMILY MASS MEETING HOPE AND HEALING

Last Tuesday evening a meeting was held in the parish hall for all the attendees of the 9.30 Sunday morning Mass. It was an opportunity to find ways of improving how we accommodate and best serve those who come, especially parents and their young children.

This meeting had resulted from a particularly noisy Mass on Sunday 7th, followed by both an item in the following Sunday's newsletter - which some parents took exception to - and a homily by me addressing the issue. There were also numerous discussions and emails over the following week, with opinions clearly divided.

I was therefore immensely appreciative to all those who came and participated in the meeting. Everyone was given the opportunity to express their point of view and to listen to others. Considering how some people's feelings were raw and emotions high, I felt the meeting was conducted in a spirit of Christian charity and benevolence that I felt both humbled and encouraged by it.

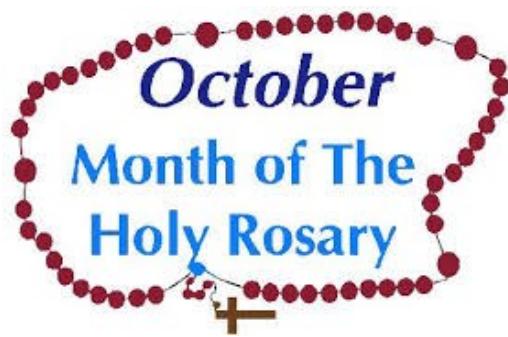
I would like to express my gratitude to Ruth McConkey for chairing the meeting so sensitively and Emma Carlile for her dedicated note taking at the meeting, (not any easy task considering the poor acoustics in the hall) and thank you to everyone who attended and participated in the meeting. I am grateful to everyone who shared their views and gave their time to help us think about how to move forwards. We will be sharing a summary of what we heard and the next steps shortly.

Last Wednesday I attended the Hope and Healing service at our Cathedral, St Georges, for those harmed and affected in any way by abuse. Archbishop John Wilson, Canon John Diver, the Episcopal Vicar for Safeguarding and Karen Troullides, the Faith Liaison Officer based at Lewisham were present along with fifty clergy and lay members.

What unfolded over the following hour was a beautiful and sensitive liturgy of readings, prayers and music, a reflection and the lighting of candles. It was a moving testimony of faith and hope.

Earlier in the evening in the middle of work and with much to do I asked myself, 'Shall I go to the Cathedral, can I afford the time?' Later that evening I came away from St Georges absolutely certain it was time well spent.

Fr Steve



Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.



Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development

CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY

Friday 3 October

Cafod is asking us all to remember our global neighbours in need by marking Harvest Fast Day on October 3. There will be Cafod speakers at all Masses this weekend.

Please take home a Cafod envelope and return it at Mass during the retiring collection next weekend. Alternatively, you can make a donation online at: cafod.org.uk/envelope. This will enable you to link your donation to the total from St Edmund's Parish. Also, if you are a UK taxpayer, please consider gift-aiding your donation, as this will increase its value by 25% at no extra cost to you.

ENTRY INTO CATHOLIC PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS 2026

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Parents are invited to come at the designated times and not to phone for special appointments with the parish priest.

Certificates of Catholic Practice can be downloaded but there will be copies available if needed.

COMMISIONING DAY FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Saturday 11 October
at St George's Cathedral

There are some parishioners who having had their DBS clearance for their role as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion have yet to be commissioned.

There is to be a commissioning Day at St George's Cathedral on 11 October and if you are able to attend this day please let the Parish Office know straight away so that they can register you for a place.

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MARRIAGE SUPPORT Starts 17 October

Does your relationship need some TLC?
Need help with deeper issues?
Contact www.retrouveille.org.uk

DAY OF PRAISE, WORSHIP AND THANKSGIVING

This day is intended for those who followed the Archdiocese's Pilgrimage to Pentecost and the Jubilee Celebration Day at Aylesford.

Saturday 4 October
St George's Cathedral
10.15 am - 5.00 pm

PRAY THE ROSARY THIS OCTOBER- WITH ARCHBISHOP JOHN AND THE MARK 10 MISSION

The Rosary Challenge invites you to pray a decade of the Rosary each weekday in October.

The Mark 10 Mission has created beautiful online videos for each mystery of the Holy Rosary, led by Archbishop John.

To watch the videos and learn more, please visit themark10mission.co.uk or The Mark 10 Mission YouTube channel
[@themark10mission.](https://www.youtube.com/@themark10mission)

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

Church Hall
Wednesday 1 October

7.45 pm Praise and Worship
8.00 pm Holy Mass
Celebrant Fr Kenneth Iwunna
Followed by Lectio Divina
10.00pm Evening concludes

300 Club

Congratulations to our September draw winners:

No 172 - Helen Wates - £100
No 18 - Fr Steve - £50
No 21 - Ana Weeks - 25

2025 celebrates the
75th Anniversary of the
consecration of
St Edmund's Church.

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY VOLUNTEERS - IS THIS FOR YOU?

The chaplaincy at Lewisham Hospital is currently looking to recruit more volunteers to visit patients on the wards, and a training course is due to start in mid-October.

If you are interested in knowing more, please email Rev Emmanuel at ekormi@nhs.net, or call the Chaplaincy on 020 8836 6831.

Gwen Chiosso from St Stephen's parish in Welling has written an article about her experience at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Woolwich, which can be found here: <http://www.saintstephens.co.uk/blog/hospital-chaplaincy-volunteering/#more-1395>

SLEEP OUT 2025



Sleep outside
for one night to
raise
awareness and
funds for
homelessness

SATURDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2025

BROMLEY PARISH CHURCH, 7PM

SIGN-UP NOW!

BromleyHomeless.org

Charity Number: 1186655



MASSES

Sun 28 Sept	Twenty-sixth Sunday
6.00 pm VIGIL	Janet Maureen Dunn Brown RIP & dec'd family members
8.00 am	Coral Harrow RIP, Maureen Harrow RIP and dec'd members of the Bean Family
9.30 am	For the people
11.00 am	Maria & Julius Jasiewicz RIP
5.30 pm	Marianne Martin RIP
Mon 29 Sept	Saints Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels
10.00 am	Tom Knell RIP
Tues 30 Sept	Saint Jerome In thanksgiving St Martan
Wed 1 Oct	St Therese of the Child Jesus In private thanksgiving Charismatic Mass in Hall
Thurs 2 Oct	The Holy Guardian Angels
10.00 am	Laury Pensa RIP
6.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration & Benediction
Friday 3 Oct	Feria
10.00 am	In thanksgiving St Rita
6.30 pm	Rosary and Confession
7.00 pm	Jubilee Mass
	Our Lady of the Rosary
Sat 4 Oct	St Francis of Assisi
10.00 am	Benefactors & promoters of the Claver Sisters
1.00 pm	Private wedding
6.00 pm VIGIL	Delisa & Crescenzo Panetta RIP
Sun 5 Oct	Twenty-seventh Sunday
	World Day of Prayer for Migrants & Refugees
8.00 am	The Hilditch family - in thanksgiving
9.30 am	Pedro Ibanez RIP (2nd anniv)
FAMILY MASS	
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Confessions are every Saturday from
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morning Mass from Monday to Saturday,
unless otherwise announced.

Bank details to set up a regular standing order:

Account name: RCAS Beckenham
Sort Code: 60 02 12
Acc No: 14282887
Link to set up a regular donation through ChurchSuite:
<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/donate/>

We pray for all who have died: Desmond Johnson, Fr John Ryan, Maude Herring, Paul Stone, Fr Patrick Hayward, William Kelly, Monica Lajwii.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Pope John Paul I, Nicholas Bassett, Elliot Moore, Tom Knell, Nick Gowing, Maria Jasiewicz, Marie-Louise Hylton, Christopher Tolhurst, Archbishop Amigo, Vaughan Harris, Ellie Dirks, John Heneghan, Francisco D'Souza, Veronica Dagger, Benito Valentino, Timothy Sullivan, Bridget Byrne, Ramon Harvey.

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woollard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Jessica Ram, Zygmunt Sobelewski, James Creedon, Baby Hector Winston, Sarah-Marie Kench, Duncan, Grace, Nora Haugh, Marie Benham, Ilean Curry and Mary Totterdell.

DIARY

September

Sat 27 Mass for the Sick at 2.30, followed by refreshments in the Hall

October

Mon 6 Law Surgery at 6.00

Mon 13 CWL Meeting with guest speaker from Mary's Meals. All welcome

Tues 14 Requiem for Maude Herring at noon.

Sat 18 & Retreat days for Lectors & Eucharistic

Sat 25 Ministers

Friday 24 Requiem for William Kelly at 12.30

December

Sat 6 Christmas Fair

Sat 13 Advent Carol Service

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from
5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of
each month and bank holidays.

Please respect the need to arrive promptly and
observe the silence

Contemplative Saturday is on a Saturday
once a month from 11.00 am to noon.
Date will be here.



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Website: www.saintedmunds.net
Parish Office - Phone: 020 8650 0970 - Email: beckenham@rcaos.org.uk
Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk
Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk
Fr Boniface Arapa - arapabony@gmail.com
Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk
Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk
Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915
sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com

Sunday 21 September 2025 Yr C



Catholic Agency for the
Support of Evangelization

THE IMPORTANCE AND THE BENEFIT OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION IN OUR CHRISTIAN LIVES

The late and renowned priest of the Diocese of Rome, Father Gabriele Amorth, wrote some striking phrases related to Eucharistic Adoration. These words reveal the extraordinary power of being in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

Below, I share with you several of these phrases:

- "He is there, hidden in that white bread! But He is not hidden from us; we see Him, and His light burns us. It is like a fire that we cannot put out!"
- "That piece of bread is not just bread. It is He, the same one who threw us out of heaven!. We hate Him, but we cannot get close to Him!"
- "If humans knew who is really there, the whole world would kneel and we would be defeated forever!"
- "Every minute spent before Him takes away our strength. He forces us to flee like cowards!"
- "That place where they adore Him is full of angels. We cannot enter there even with our traps!"
- "When they worship Him, He strengthens their souls and destroys everything we have done in their lives."
- "One hour before Him takes away from us the souls we had trapped for years. It is like a great war against us, and we always lose it!"
- "The Holy Hour fills their homes and families with light. We cannot bear that light, it blinds us!"
- "When they do the Holy Hour for sinners, they receive His mercy and our chains are broken. It is a condemnation for us!"
- "Those hours of silence before Him are like a hammer hitting our heads. We cannot resist it!"
- "When they look at Him, they say nothing, but He acts in their hearts. It destroys us from within!"
- "Silence before Him is more powerful than a thousand words. He fills them with grace and makes them invincible!"
- "Every moment of adoration offered by the souls in purgatory frees them. Those acts are like swords that cut our chains!"
- "The souls He frees take away ground from us, and we cannot regain it!"
- "Stop those reparative worships! Every act before Him destroys what we have built with so much effort."
- "Reparative worship is poison for us. It is as if you destroy everything we do in your souls!"
- "When you make amends for blasphemies and sacrileges, you weaken us more than you can imagine."
- "Those who spend time before Him are protected! It is as if they build a barrier of fire around them. We cannot reach them easily!"
- "Every time one of you looks at Him with faith, we receive a punishment that hurts us more than a thousand chains."
- "When someone worships Him with all their heart, He snatches away what is ours. He humiliates us every time!"
- "Those prayers before the Blessed Sacrament for sinners are our ruin. They receive His mercy and repent, and that destroys our traps!"
- "When they pray for the lost before Him, He shows them His love and breaks our chains. It is a disaster for us!"
- "Adoration for sinners leaves us powerless over them. He covers them with His blood, and we can no longer touch them!"
- "It burns us, it burns us! That light that radiates from the Blessed Sacrament is like a fire that never goes out."
- "He is alive there, and we cannot bear it. His gaze destroys us."
- "The souls that consecrate themselves to Adoration are like swords that pierce us. We cannot overcome them!"
- "Those small groups that adore Him are more powerful than entire armies of our own."
- "One hour with Him is worth more than thousands of prayers that do not include His presence."
- "Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is like a rain that puts out the fires we have lit in the world."
- "These acts of worship bring peace to the earth."

If adoration of our Lord Jesus Christ in the most Holy Sacrament of the altar brings us such great benefits and protection from the devil, why don't we as members of this church community treasure, love and participate in it regularly as a way of saving our souls! Ponder about it,

Fr Boniface Arapa

In last week's newsletter and my homily last Sunday I wrote and spoke about the noise level at Masses and in particular at the 9.30. My intention was simply to address the issue as I had received both criticism and support. I hope I have replied to all who contacted me. I would like to reiterate that there was no intention to cause any hurt or offence.

We now need to look at the way forward so I would like to propose a meeting in the parish hall on Tuesday 23rd September at 7.00pm for those who attend the 9.30 Mass. I hope we can work together and agree the best way to support all our parishioners and especially the families of young children. I look forward to discussing this with you on Tuesday.

Fr Steve

FOLK CHOIR

We'd like to thank everyone; current and past members and friends, for making 5:30 Mass last Sunday such a success. It felt like a wonderful celebration of the choir and a testament to how much it means to the parish. A special thank you also to Cathy and her team who helped make the gathering in the hall after Mass so special, it was lovely to see so many people there. We hope to be contributing to the liturgy for many years to come.

Folk Choir

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEK

EVANGELII GAUDIUM (HOME MISSION)

This collection provides Bishops of England and Wales with resources to support Home Mission, the spread of the gospel in our own country. The money collected enables a breadth of work to be done in support of parish evangelization.

RCIA COURSE

This course for those interested in learning more about the Catholic Church or those who wish to join the Church, started last week.

If you wish to join this course please contact us at faithhub.28@gmail.com.

Cathy and Mary

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

Church Hall

Wednesday 24 September

7.45 pm Praise and Worship

8.00 pm Holy Mass celebrated by
Fr David Gummett

Followed by Adoration before the
Blessed Sacrament with prayers for
healing

10.00 pm Evening concludes

DAY OF RETREAT FOR LECTORS AND EXTRA ORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday 18 October at St Stephen's Church, Welling or Saturday 25 October at Bishop Thomas Grant School in Streatham. Places need to be booked through the Parish Office. Please send an email giving your name and the session you would like to attend.

MASS OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Saturday 27 September at 2.30 pm
This Mass is being celebrated for anyone
who is ill, in any way.

After the Mass you are invited to come to
the Hall for refreshments.

Our SVP is providing transport for anyone
who needs it so please email
beckenhamsvp@gmail.com or call
07789 497 482 and leave a message or
send a text

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Calling all Parishioners:

You are invited to our Coffee and Cake
Morning on Saturday, 27 September in
the Church Hall between 10.00 am. and
12.30 pm.

Please do come with family and friends to
raise money to support this very worthy
cause.

Calling all Bakers: please consider also
baking a cake(s) or tray-bake to donate!
Some suggested recipes are available at
the back of Church.

If you don't bake please would you donate
a shop-bought cake?

Cake donations can be received in the
Hall from 9.00 am. on the day or you can
drop them off to the Office on Friday.

Looking forward to seeing you all there!



WALK TO ST EDITH'S WELL.

With fellow pilgrims from St. Thomas' Church in Sevenoaks, and joined by walkers from the Jubilee Pilgrimage to Aylesford Priory in June, together with folk from other parishes, we set off in cheerful spirits. Despite the grey skies and threat of rain, we arrived at Kemsing with new friendships formed and old ones rekindled.

At the Well, Fr. Peter led the prayers and devotions in honour of St. Edith and our intentions were offered for our parish communities.



MARRIAGE SUPPORT Starts 17 October

Does your relationship need some TLC?
Need help with deeper issues?
Contact www.retrouveille.org.uk

DAY OF PRAISE, WORSHIP AND THANKSGIVING

This day is intended for those who followed the Archdiocese's Pilgrimage to Pentecost and the Jubilee Celebration Day at Aylesford.

Saturday 4 October
St George's Cathedral
10.15 am - 5.00 pm



Please bring your red boxes to the Office for emptying.
They can be collected from the reading slope.

ANNUAL MASS COUNT

At this time each year, in every chapel and church throughout the world, the number of those attending Mass is recorded over four consecutive weeks and submitted to the Vatican.

The count starts this weekend.

As the priest begins to read the notices he will ask the welcoming team to begin the count and when done, to write it on the chart in the sacristy. It will only take a couple of minutes

2025 celebrates the
75th Anniversary of the
consecration of
St Edmund's Church.

SERVICE FOR HOPE AND HEALING

Archbishop John Wilson and the Safeguarding team, invite all parishioners to join them on 24 September at 6.30pm, for a Service for Hope and Healing, for all those that have been harmed by abuse. The service is to express the archdiocese's commitment to all those that have been harmed, their family and friends, and to come together as a community and demonstrate our solidarity for those who have been harmed.

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY VOLUNTEERS - IS THIS FOR YOU?

The chaplaincy at Lewisham Hospital is currently looking to recruit more volunteers to visit patients on the wards, and a training course is due to start in mid-October.

If you are interested in knowing more, please email Rev Emmanuel at ekormi@nhs.net, or call the Chaplaincy on 020 8836 6831.

Gwen Chiosso from St Stephen's parish in Welling has written an article about her experience at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Woolwich, which can be found here: <http://www.saintstephens.co.uk/blog/hospital-chaplaincy-volunteering/#more-1395>

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

21ST – 25TH OCTOBER COST £399:

Dartford parish is running a pilgrimage at half term which has a few spaces left.

They are offering a very generous discount for young people under 16.

Costs include return flights from Stansted, half board accommodation, transfer from/to Lourdes, £70 single supplement.

Children under 16 go for £199.

Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.

MASSES

Sun 21 Sept

6.00 pm **VIGIL** **Twenty-fifth Sunday**
Christine Wallner RIP (14th anniv)
8.00 am For the people
9.30 am Dr Alexander Uche RIP
11.00 am **LATIN** Margaret Paes RIP
5.30 pm Paul Stephens RIP

Mon 22 Sept

10.00 am **Feria**
Lily Beavis & Tony Colonnese RIP

Tues 23 Sept

St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)
Pat & John McAvoy RIP

Wed 24 Sept

Our Lady of Walsingham
Thank you to St Clare
7.30 pm Charismatic Mass in Hall

Thurs 25 Sept

Feria
10.00 am Tom Knell RIP
6.00 pm **CLAVER** Adoration

Friday 26 Sept

Feria (Saints Cosmas & Damian)
10.00 am Fr Adam RIP (6th anniv)

Sat 27 Sept

St Vincent de Paul
10.00 am Rukee Pereira (b'day)
2.30 pm Mass of Anointing
6.00 pm **VIGIL** Janet Maureen Dunn Brown RIP
& dec'd family members

Sun 28 Sept

Twenty-sixth Sunday
World Day of Prayer for Migrants & Refugees
8.00 am Coral Harrow RIP, Maureen
Harrow RIP and dec'd members
of the Bean Family
9.30 am For the people
11.00 am Maria & Julius Jasiewicz RIP
5.30 pm Marianne Martin RIP

Confessions are every Saturday from
10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm,
and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and

Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after

morning Mass from Monday to Saturday,

unless otherwise announced.

Bank details to set up a regular standing order:

Account name: RCAS Beckenham

Sort Code: 60 02 12

Acc No: 14282887

Link to set up a regular donation through ChurchSuite:

<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/donate/>

We pray for all who have died: Desmond Johnson, Fr John Ryan, Maude Herring, Paul Stone, Fr Patrick Hayward, William Kelly.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: John Stoneman, Marion Martin, Patricia English, Danuta Eberhardt, Edward Sullivan, Esther Smith, Ann Margaret Wood, Terence Harte, Thomas Harrigan, Joan Czyrka, Mary Kairis, Patricia Deeley, Marian Hughes.

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woollard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Jessica Ram, Zygmunt Sobelewski, James Creedon, Baby Hector Winston, Sarah-Marie Kench, Duncan, Grace, Nora Haugh, Marie Benham, Monica Lajwii, Ilean Curry.

DIARY

September

Tues 23 9.30 Mass meeting in Hall at 7.00 pm
Sat 27 Macmillan Coffee Morning in the Hall
10 - 12.30
Sat 27 Mass for the Sick at 2.30, followed by refreshments in the Hall

October

Mon 13 CWL Meeting with guest speaker from Mary's Meals. All welcome
Sat 18 & Sat 25 Retreat days for Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers.

December

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Sat 13 Advent Carol Service

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from 5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of each month and bank holidays.

Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence

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Date will be here.



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Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk
Fr Boniface Arapa - bonifacearapa@rcaos.org.uk
Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk
Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardraos.org.uk
Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915
sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com

Sunday 14 September 2025 Yr C



Our retiring collection is for the Catholic Education Service

Congratulations to our Folk Choir on 55 years of music

CHRIST'S TRIUMPH OF THE CROSS

It is often said that what we fear is not death, but dying, and it was no different for Jesus. The closer Jesus came to his own death, a death that he knew would be one of appalling, cruel torture, the more the horror of what he would have to undergo began to undermine his resolve.

It was while he prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane that his agony truly began, culminating in the cry, 'May this cup be taken away from me!' He even knew that he had it in his power to escape from those who were on their way to arrest him. All it would take would be to do as his ancestor, King David, had done, many centuries earlier, when he had fled from Jerusalem to escape the army of his rebellious son, Absalom: to carry on up the Mount of Olives and escape from there into the seclusion and safety of the wilderness beyond.

So great was his consternation as he awaited his Father's answer that, as Luke tells us, Jesus sweated blood. This is a rare phenomenon, but it does sometimes happen – its technical name is 'haematohidrosis'. Around the sweat glands there are delicate networks of very fine blood vessels, and under the pressure of great stress these blood vessels constrict. Then, as the anxiety passes, the blood vessels dilate and rupture, the blood passes into the sweat glands, and out through the skin. We should notice that detail: the blood is squeezed out *once the anxiety has passed*. With his Father's help in response to his prayer, by the time he is sweating blood Jesus has already *triumphed* over his fear of what will befall him: his agony has passed because he has completely accepted his Father's will. This is the beginning of Christ's triumph, and it is surely a source of deep consolation to us to know that, in his love for us, and for his Father, he went willingly, and with total readiness, to his death, enduring his final hours of insult, humiliation and pain in a state of utter inner peace. There, in the Garden of Gethsemane, the battle had already been won.

Deacon Seán

BEHAVIOUR AT MASS

Everyone is most welcome to attend and participate in the Mass and we are blessed here at St Edmund's to have five Sunday Masses.

To see young families at these Masses is very inspiring and fills me with hope for the future. However, I feel I must address an issue which has been a problem for a while and was particularly noticeable at last Sunday's 9.30 Mass.

There were one or two children who were clearly in some distress and crying very loudly so that many of the congregation were greatly distracted: they couldn't concentrate on their prayers or what Fr Boniface was saying.

When children become too boisterous or

agitated it is the duty of the parents to take control of the situation and remove their child to a place where he or she cannot be a distraction and hopefully be happier in themselves.

Please take your child to the narthex till they quieten down - you can hear the Mass there, and can return when your child is calm.

Children must not be allowed to run around in the church. This is a safety issue in a crowded church and is completely unacceptable. Children should sit with their parent at all times.

Fr Steve

This Sunday, the Feast of the Exultation of the Holy Cross, parishioners will have an opportunity to venerate a fragment of the Holy Cross. This will be after the dismissal at the vigil Mass on Saturday and the 8.00 am and 11.00 am Masses on Sunday.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING **Calling all Parishioners:**

You are invited to our Coffee and Cake Morning on Saturday, 27 September in the Church Hall between 10.00 am. and 12.30 pm.

Please do come with family and friends to raise money to support this very worthy cause.

Calling all Bakers: please consider also baking a cake(s) or tray-bake to donate! Some suggested recipes are available at the back of Church.

If you don't bake please would you perhaps donate a shop-bought cake?

Cake donations can be received in the Hall from 9.00 am. on the day or you can drop them off to the Office on Friday.

Looking forward to seeing you all there!
Thank you!



On Monday, the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, Deacon Sean will lead the congregation in praying the Chaplet of Our Lady of Sorrows during Adoration as we offer prayers for the victims of sexual abuse.



Please bring your red boxes to the Office for emptying.

DAY OF RETREAT FOR LECTORS AND EXTRA ORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

There are two days to choose from:
Saturday 18 October at St Stephen's Church, Welling or Saturday 25 October at Bishop Thomas Grant School in Streatham.

Places need to be booked through the Parish Office. Please send an email giving your name and the session you would like to attend.

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

Church Hall
Wednesday 17 September

7.45 pm Praise and Worship
8.00 pm Holy Mass
Followed by Informal Prayer meeting
10.00 pm Evening concludes

MASS OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

This Mass will be on Saturday 27 September at 2.30 pm. Anyone who is ill, in any way, and wishes to be anointed is encouraged to attend.

After the Mass we will have refreshments in the Hall.

If you need transport please email beckenhamsvp@gmail.com or call 07789 497 482 and leave a message or send a text

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN MORNINGS

Our parish school St Mary's Catholic Primary, will be holding open mornings for parents of children due to start Reception in September 2026 at 10.45 am on Thursday 2 October; Wednesday 15 October; Wednesday 5 November and Wednesday 26 November.

If you would like to attend any of these open mornings, please contact Mrs Tracey - School Admissions Officer by email at admin@stmaryscp.co.uk

Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.

MAUDE HERRING RIP

Maude Herring was a well-known and respected parishioner of St Edmund's for most of her long life. She died peacefully this week having spent a couple of weeks in a care home following a fall in which she fractured her hip. Maude was 103.

Maude worked for many years as school secretary at Bishop Challoner School, retiring in 1985, and was an active member of the CWL, where she was a strict treasurer but also famous for her catering skills. She and her friend Joan Harvey undertook most of the catering for parish events of which there were many, in addition to producing impressive quantities of home-made cakes and jam for the Christmas Fair.

Maude was awarded the Benemerenti Medal which is bestowed by the Pope in recognition of service to the Catholic Church

She was a great character and still remembered by many of us at St. Edmund's.'

May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

STOP ASSISTED SUICIDE FURTHER ACTION NEEDED!

As the Assisted Suicide Bill progresses through the Lords, Peers have made it clear that receiving physical letters will have the most influence at this stage of the process.

Right To Life UK has launched a new *EasyAction* tool that creates a personalised letter to be sent in the post to a Peer highlighting a key concern with the Bill, selects a Peer to receive it, and customises the letter so that it is addressed from you.

**Please take action now and visit:
www.rightrighttolife.org.uk/aspeersletter
to send a letter to Peers asking them to**



MARRIAGE SUPPORT Starts 17 October

Does your relationship need some TLC?
Need help with deeper issues?
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SERVICE FOR HOPE AND HEALING

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ANNUAL DIOCESAN DAY FOR CATECHISTS

Saturday 20 September
St George's Cathedral, SE1 6HU
Day begins at 10.00 am.

Registration is now open.

aec.rcaos.org.uk/day-for-catechists-2025
Places are always booked up very quickly so please register promptly.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

21ST – 25TH OCTOBER COST £399:

Dartford parish is running a pilgrimage at half term which has a few spaces left.

They are offering a very generous discount for young people under 16.

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Saturday 4 October
St George's Cathedral
10.15 am - 5.00 pm

2025 celebrates the
75th Anniversary of the
consecration of
St Edmund's Church.

MASSES

Sun 14 Sept	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
6.00 pm VIGIL	Siobhan Donnelly RIP (anniv)
8.00 am	Peter May RIP
9.30 am	Monica Grima RIP
11.00 am	In thanksgiving - The Ekong Family
5.30 pm	In thanksgiving & appreciation of the Folk Choir on its 55th Anniversary
Mon 15 Sept	Our Lady of Sorrows
10.00 am	Tom Spillane RIP
Tues 16 Sept	Sts Cornelius, Pope & Cyprian, Shiroma Dabrera (b'day)
Wed 17 Sept	Feria
10.00 am	Dec'd benefactors & promoters of the Claver Sisters
7.30 pm	Mass in Hall
Thurs 18 Sept	Feria (St Edith of Kemsing)
10.00 am	Evelyn Reilly RIP
6.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration & Benediction
Friday 19 Sept	Feria
10.00 am	In thanksgiving to St Joseph
Sat 20 Sept	St Andrew Kim Tae-Gon & Paul Chong Ha-Sang Companions, Martyrs
10.00 am	Liz Bennett RIP
1.00 pm	Marriage blessing of Bernice Moss & Olumba Ekpo
6.00 pm VIGIL	Christine Wallner RIP (14th anniv)
Sun 21 Sept	Twenty-fifth Sunday
8.00 am	Pro populo
9.30 am	Dr Alexander Uche RIP
11.00 am LATIN	Margaret Paes RIP
5.30 pm	Paul Stephens RIP

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We pray for all who have died: Sean Connolly, Alan Fine, Marietta D'Castro, Desmond Johnson, Fr John Ryan, Maude Herring.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: John MacNamara, Alan Burfield, Paula Frampton, Martin Norris, Thomas Spillane, Narciso Andrion, Olga Roberts, Margaret Leeks, Ann Zaccaroli, Margaret Cregan, Marisia Nawara, Maria Okafor, Pat McAvoy, Evelina Rettie.

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woollard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Paul, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Jessica Ram, Zygmunt Sobelewski, James Creedon, Baby Hector Winston, Sarah-Marie Kench, Duncan, Grace, Marie Benham, Nora Haugh, Marie Benham, Monica Lajwii.

DIARY

September

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Sat 27	Macmillan Coffee Morning in the Hall
Sat 27	Mass for the Sick at 2.30, followed by refreshments in the Hall

October

Mon 13	CWL Meeting with guest speaker from Mary's Meals. All welcome
Sat 18 & Sat 25	Retreat days for Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers (details to follow)

December

Sat 6	Christmas Fair
Sat 13	Advent Carol Service

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from 5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of each month and bank holidays.
Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence

The next Contemplative Saturday is **13 September**, in the Hall from 11.00 am to 12 noon.



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Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Boniface Arapa - bonifacearapa@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk

Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardraos.org.uk

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915

sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com

Sunday 31 AUGUST 2025 Yr C



Our retiring collection next weekend is for the SVP

WELCOME TO FR BONIFACE

Dear Fathers Steve, Andrew, and the Christian community of St Edmund's parish, Beckenham, I am so delighted to be "coming home" again, this time, not for a short term supply but for a long term placement.

My pastoral experience in the parish in 2018 remains forever in my mind, and St Edmunds remains indeed my second home. The hospitality, the family spirit and the generosity of the community that I experienced then, gives me the confidence that I shall live a good life in the community even now that I shall be with you. I am very much looking forward to sharing my pastor experience in Uganda with you, at the same time eager to learn from you.

I very strongly believe that when we co-operate and work together, we shall build the kingdom of God amidst us. May His will be done.

Thank you,

Fr Boniface Arapa



Please welcome Fr Boniface to St Edmund's, and introduce yourself to him if you have the opportunity.

FR JOHN OLANIRAN

It was only four months ago when Fr Sunith, the parish priest of St Anthony of Padua died, that our own Fr John was sent there to console a grieving parish and to hold the fort before a new priest was appointed.

At that time we didn't know that Fr John would not return to us, but in days he will begin a permanent placement as Parish Administrator of Westerham and Biggin Hill parishes.

Fr John was at St Edmund's for three years and we would like to mark his ministry here with a financial gift. There are envelopes at the back of the church which can be put in the collection basket or handed in to the Office, or you can make your gift using the QR code.

Thank you so much.



300 CLUB

Some months ago, at the instigation of the 300 Club organiser, we asked parishioners to suggest improvements they would like to see in the Hall.

Many of those who responded suggested a large screen that could show films, the words of hymns, on-line talks etc.

The screen is now in place and if anyone has ideas of how we could use it for parish entertainment, please come forward.

Catechists - it is there for you to use. It is straightforward, but please come in for a demo before you need to use it for the first time.

Thank you to the **300 Club** for funding the screen. There are still numbers left so if you want to be part of this club please contact the Office.

FAITH EXPLORERS

The 'Bible In a Year' group was created and run by Annie Williamson who was passionate about the Bible in a Year podcast by Ascension Press and hosted by Fr Mike Schmitz. You can listen for free on the Ascension Press app or the 'Hallow' app.

The group has grown into something more: a supportive and evolving community now to be renamed as '*Faith Explorers*'. Initially formed to help each other stay committed to regular Scripture reading, many of us have completed or are soon to complete our journey - and found it life-changing and inspiring. Yet the group continues to seek more, expanding our understanding by exploring faith through theological works, personal reflection, and open discussion.

Faith Explorers is a place where everyone is welcome - no experience necessary, no question too small or too big. Whether you're a Bible In a Year finalist, just beginning your faith journey, or somewhere in between, you'll find listening to others is as valued as sharing your (often) newly discovered insight or revelation.

Come as you are. Share what you're discovering or simply be present. Whether that be wishing to start your own Bible journey, the 'Rosary In a Year', or if you've found your way to other writers such as C.S Lewis, you'll find a space where people support each other, ask honest questions, and explore faith in real, personal ways. We've found this group to be a great place to grow, learn, and deepen our spiritual lives.

Some of our members wish to share their personal testimonies:

I found Bible In a Year a really great experience, Fr Mike and Jeff Cavins have a really clear way to explain the true meaning behind some of the more difficult Bible passages. It was half an hour each day well spent and a great opportunity to do something I would never have done without this podcast.

I have learnt so much about God's nature, that He wills to love us, and redeem us over and over until time itself comes to an end.

I see Faith Explorers as a support group which continues to evolve as we learn more and spread our net wider into theological works. How we each approach this has been fascinating and interesting; it is a great place to ask questions and get some answers. For me, I wanted to read

the Bible properly and to start to understand it. What a brilliant podcast series it has been. There are lots of follow-on materials I am finding. It is no exaggeration to say the process has been life changing for me. Thank you."

Come and try us - see if we're right for you. Faith is a journey, and you don't have to walk it alone, and you can walk it at your pace (not just in a year).

"(Bible In a year) Can answer many questions, even some on University Challenge!"

We meet on average every two weeks, usually in the meeting room in the church hall. We will be meeting again after our summer break, on 5 September.

If you wish to enquire, please contact Olli at: beckenhamfaithexplorers@rcaos.org.uk

LAW SURGERY

Law Surgery is this **Monday, September 1.**

Please come to the side door of the Hall at 6.00 pm and you will be seen in turn.

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

Church Hall
Wednesday 3 September

7.45 pm Praise and Worship
8.00 pm Holy Mass
Celebrant Fr Boniface Arapa
Followed by Lectio Divina
10.00 pm Evening concludes

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Our Bereavement Support Group begins its next sessions on Thursday 18 September, meeting weekly at 6.00 pm until 7.30 pm in the Meeting Room of St. Edmund's Hall.

Last minute enquiries to:
beckenhambsg@rcaos.org.uk.

Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.

There are copies of the Prayer to Saint Michael and the Memorare on the table at the back of the church. As Fr Steve has said over the last few weeks these prayers will be recited at some Masses. If the prayers are unfamiliar to you, please pick up a copy and take it away with you.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN DAY FOR CATECHISTS

Saturday 20 September
St George's Cathedral, SE1 6HU
Day begins at 10.00 am.
Registration is now open.

Catechists are invited to a day filled with teachings and prayer and a chance to meet fellow Catechists.

Registration and choice of workshops can be found at
aec.rcaos.org.uk/day-for-catechists-2025

All parish catechists are encouraged to attend this day. Details have been sent to them already, but if you have been missed out, or are thinking of becoming a catechist, please take a look at the link above.

Babies and Toddlers Group

St Edmund's Hall

Mondays during term time
10 – 11.30 am
£3.00 per family

RESTARTS 8 SEPTEMBER



CHURCH SUITE

Some people, when setting up their account on Church Suite, fail to tick the box allowing emails from the parish.

The result of this is that they don't receive the weekly newsletter.

If this is you, and you would like to receive the newsletter every Friday afternoon, it is very easy for you to go into your account and make this amendment for yourself.



Weekend of 6 and 7 September

Croydon Road Rec

WARNING

There is a major festival in the recreation ground next weekend.

Please be aware that the roads near to the church will be very busy and that parking will be even more difficult than it normally is.

There may only be limited space in the car park and there could well be congestion on the nearby roads.

MASS OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Our annual Mass of Anointing of the Sick is to be celebrated on Saturday 27 September at 2.30 pm. Anyone who is ill, in any way, and wishes to be anointed is encouraged to attend.

After the Mass we will have refreshments in the Hall.

There will be transport available for those who need it. Details to come.

MESSAGE FROM THE FOLK CHOIR

Mass on 14 September will be a Celebration and Thanks for 55 years of the Folk Choir. (we missed 50 years due to Lockdown).

We would love to welcome as many former members and supporters as possible.

There will be a reception in the Hall after Mass - all parishioners will be very welcome.

All our choirs will be back next weekend after their summer break.

MASSES

Sun 31 August	Twenty second Sunday
6.00 pm VIGIL	Dante & Angelica Dragonetti RIP
8.00 am	Thomas & Violet Cronin RIP
9.30 am	For the people
11.00 am	Enedina Floris RIP
5.30 pm	Mike Howard & Monica Howard RIP

Mon 1 Sept	Feria
10.00 am	The Holy Souls

Tues 2 Sept	Feria
10.00 am	Thank you to the Sacred Heart

Wed 3 Sept	St Gregory the Great
10.00 am	Dorothy De Maria RIP

Mass in Hall

Thurs 4 Sept	Feria (St Cuthbert)
10.00 am	Dec'd benefactors & promoters of the Claver Sisters
6.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration & Benediction

Friday 5 Sept	Feria
10.00 am	Kathleen Puddephat RIP (70th anniv)
6.30 pm	Rosary & Confession
7.00 pm	Jubilee Mass (HARVEST)

Sat 6 Sept	The Blessed Virgin Mary
10.00 am	Blessed Mother Mary
6.00 pm VIGIL	Alek Pasiniewicz RIP

Sun 7 Sept	Twenty third Sunday
8.00 am	Bridget Hrekow RIP
9.30 am	For the people
FAMILY MASS	
11.00 am LATIN	Peter Dias RIP & Guy Dabre (b'day)
5.30 pm	Ania & Cornel on their 25th wedding anniversary

Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm, and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am and there is Adoration after morning Mass from Monday to Saturday, unless otherwise announced.

Bank details to set up a regular standing order:

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Sort Code: 60 02 12

Acc No: 14282887

Link to set up a regular donation through ChurchSuite:
<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/donate/>

We pray for all who have died: Sean Connolly, Alan Fine, Bridie Gitter, Marietta D'Castro, Desmond Johnson.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Ronnie Collier, Sheila Ehrhart, Coral Wallis, James Byrne, Gareth Thomas, Victoria Hodgson, Sheila Petersen, Michael Cole, Christian Petersen, Derek Wiseman, Duke Ekong.

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woollard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Paul, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Jessica Ram, Zygmunt Sobelewski, James Creedon, Baby Hector Winston, Sarah-Marie Kench, Duncan, Grace, Marie Benham, Nora Haugh, Fr David Camilleri.

DIARY

September

Mon 1	Law Surgery (see p1)
Fri 5	Faith Explorers (see p2)
Mon 8	CWL meeting in Hall at 2.30
Thurs 11	First session of RCIA course
Sun 14	Folk Choir anniversary Mass followed by reception in the Hall
Sat 27	Macmillan Coffee Morning in the Hall
Sat 27	Mass for the Sick at 2.30, followed by refreshments in the Hall

October

Mon 13	CWL Meeting has guest speaker from Mary's Meals. All welcome
Sat 18 & Sat 25	Retreat days for Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers (details to follow)

December

Sat 6	Christmas Fair
Sat 13	Advent Carol Service

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from 5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of each month and bank holidays.

Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence

The next Contemplative Saturday is 13 September, in the Hall from 11.00 am to 12 noon.



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Website: www.saintedmunds.net
Parish Office - Phone: 020 8650 0970 - Email: beckenham@rcaos.org.uk
Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk
Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk
Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk
Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915
sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com

Sunday 17 AUGUST 2025 Yr C



There is no Retiring Collection this week.

This newsletter covers two weekends.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Children who will be entering Yr 3, and other primary school children who have not yet received this sacrament can apply now for a place on the course which will start in September.

Please sign up at the link below:
<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/events/vkdzikwe>

Families must live within the parish boundary to qualify for a place.

Time is running out so please sign up now.

Registration will close on August 25

SUMMER COFFEE MORNINGS

Thursday Mornings
After 10.00 am Mass

It has been lovely to welcome so many parishioners to the Hall after Thursday morning Mass.

We only have a few weeks left to meet up so please do join us for refreshments if you can.

300 CLUB

The winners of the August draw are:

Margretta Fleming	£100
Jayne Browning	£50
Sean Lacey	£25

Congratulation to them all.

A JOURNEY IN FAITH

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)
The next course for those interested in becoming a Catholic begins on Thursday 11 September at 7.30 in the Hall.

If you would like more information please contact email faithhub.28@gmail.com or speak to one of the clergy team.

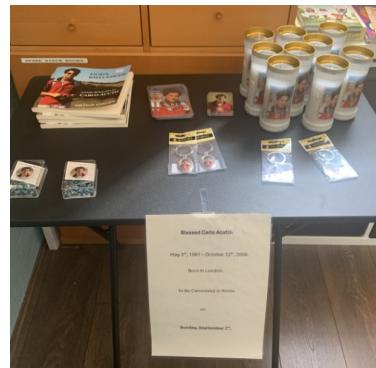
CHURCH SHOP

Patrick O'Donnell has taken over the responsibility of managing our church Shop. A huge thank you to him for volunteering for this role.

The beautiful candles we had made for our 75th Anniversary are still available from the Shop. All profits from their sale is for the Lady Chapel fund.

The picture below shows some of the religious items available to purchase to celebrate the canonisation of Blessed Carlo Acutis on 7 September.

If you could offer assistance in the Shop contact Patrick at patrick.odonnell@zen.co.uk



Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP STARTING SOON

Our next six week Bereavement Support Group will begin on Thursday 18 September meeting weekly at 6.00 pm until 7.30 pm in the Meeting Room of St. Edmund's Hall. This free group is open to everyone, regardless of faith, and offers a supportive space to share and heal.

Spaces are limited to 7 attendees. To find out more or to book your place, please contact the Parish Office on 020 8650 0970 or email beckenhambsg@rcaos.org.uk.

More information is available on the Church Notice Board in the porch.

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

Church Hall
Wednesday 20 August

We haven't received any information about this week's Mass but please assume it will take place as usual.

You could check by contacting Tom Calouri on tomcalouri@hotmail.com

MRS MAUDE HERRING

Maude has been discharged from the PRUH and is now in a care home. Details are available from the Parish Office.

Please keep Maude in your prayers.

THE LADY CHAPEL—UPDATE

Canon John Weatherill of the diocesan **Art & Architecture Committee** will be visiting St Edmund's on 3 September to view the Lady Chapel and to advise on what it is possible to do in our planned refurbishment.

A JOURNEY IN FAITH

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) 2025/26

The RCIA course is for those who would like to learn more about the Catholic Faith or who are interested in joining the Catholic Church. We also welcome baptised adult Catholics who wish to be confirmed.

We are a friendly team who will support you in relaxed and informal weekly sessions. The course lasts from September until June and those who wish to do so can be received into the Church at Easter.

We use the Sycamore course which is a mix of videos and discussion groups and has been well received by previous enquirers. The course is suitable for people at any level of knowledge about Christianity/Catholicism, so if you think you know very little please turn up anyway.

We do not charge for the course and you are free to leave at any time. It is held on Thursday evenings in St Edmunds Hall (opposite the Church). Our next course begins on 11 September at 7.30 pm.

For more information please contact us at faithhub.28@gmail.com or speak to one of the clergy team.

Mary and Cathy.

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London, is holding a Celebration of St Faustina's Birthday at Aylesford Priory on Bank Holiday Monday, 25 August, from 10.30 am to 4:30 pm.

The reflection day will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus.

All welcome. Call Millie on 07957 594 646 for more information. There will be coaches from Victoria.

The annual walk to St Edith's Well, Kemsing, will take place on Sunday 14 September and is a whole day event. We shall meet as usual after 8.00 am Mass. Fr Piotr Kucharski, PP of the parish of St Thomas, Sevenoaks and at present on holiday in Poland, has plans to enhance the pilgrimage this year. More detailed information will be given later.

Michael Elmer





Join March for Life UK on Saturday 6 Sept in London!

The right to life underpins every other right we have and without it every other right is rendered meaningless. Abortion denies the most vulnerable in our society their most basic right, the right to life, which is why this year's theme is 'Human Rights for All Humans'.

Unite with thousands of others at this family-friendly event where we recognise the value of life from conception and stand up for all those who have been impacted by abortion. Find out more at

marchforlife.co.uk or email:
info@marchforlife.co.uk

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Sort Code: 60 02 12

Acc No: 14282887

Link to set up a regular donation through ChurchSuite:

<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/>

DOUBLE ISSUE

This newsletter is a double issue covering the next two weeks.

There is usually much less to print during the summer which allows us to put in some stock reminders about the church and some of its processes such as marriage papers and baptism but we've done all this over the last few weeks so will take a short break.

PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL

In the last few weeks a number of people have approached me to request that we re-introduce the Prayer to St Michael to our services.

I am happy to do this and indeed to start using other prayers that are no longer recited so often.

Please let me know of any that you would welcome saying together.

Here is the Prayer to St Michael - the Office will prepare some copies next week that you can use.

Fr Steve

PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL

Holy Michael, Archangel, defend us in the day of battle;

be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil.

*May God rebuke him we humbly pray;
And do thou Prince of the Heavenly Hosts, by
the power of God,*

*Thrust down to hell Satan and all other evil
spirits*

*who wander through the world for the ruin of
souls.*

Amen



MASSES

Sun 17 August

6.00 pm VIGIL
8.00 am
9.30 am
11.00 am **LATIN**
5.30 pm
Twentieth Sunday
Elmary Butler RIP & ints of Kian
Keith Kench RIP
Brian Lennon RIP
Gesuino Collu RIP
For the people

Mon 18 August

10.00 am
Feria
Michael Stannard RIP (1st anniv)

Tues 19 August

10.00 am
Feria
Dec'd benefactors & promoters of
the Claver Sisters
NO ADORATION
Funeral service for
Asher Downer

Wed 20 August

10.00 am
7.30 pm
St Bernard, Abbot
Dec'd benefactors & promoters of
the Claver Sisters
Mass in Hall

Thurs 21 August

10.00 am
12.30 pm
6.00 pm **CLAVER**
St Pius X, Pope
Ints of the Banfield Family
Requiem for Eugene Kelly
Adoration & Benediction

Friday 22 August

10.00 am
**The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin
Mary**
Canon Oliver Heaney RIP

Sat 23 August

10.00 am
6.00 pm VIGIL
Feria (St Rose of Lima)
Margaret Kelleher (b'day)
Patrick Durham RIP

Sun 24 August

8.00 am
9.30 am
11.00 am **LATIN**
5.30 pm
Twentyfirst Sunday
Pat & Mary Cronin RIP
For the people
Fr Alphonse Vianneyraj RIP
Mykeel Seeboruth RIP

Mon 25 August

10.00 am
Feria
Anne Wakerley (b'day)

Tues 26 August

10.00 am
Feria
Margaret Larmer RIP (60th anniv)

Wed 27 August

10.00 am
11.30 am
7.30 pm
St Monica
Janet Maureen Dunn-Browne RIP
& dec'd family members
NO ADORATION
Requiem of Philomena Kelly
Mass in Hall

Thurs 28 August

10.00 am
6.00 pm **CLAVER**
St Augustine, Bishop
Margaret Spillane RIP (4th anniv)
Adoration & Benediction

Friday 29 August

10.00 am
**The Passion of St John
the Baptist**
Nicholas Jordan RIP

Sat 30 August

10.00 am
6.00 pm VIGIL
**Saints Margaret Clitherow, Anne
Line & Margaret Ward, Martyrs**
Ints of Mila Banfield (b'day)
Dante & Angelica Dragonetti RIP

Sun 31 August

8.00 am
9.30 am
11.00 am **LATIN**
5.30 pm
Twentieth Sunday
Thomas & Violet Cronin RIP
For the people
Enedina Floris RIP
Mike Howard & Monica Howard
RIP

We pray for those who have died: Eugene Kelly, Colm Ruddy, Vito Chan, Philomena Kelly.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Cyril Kidd, Bob Ryan, James Rhodes, Keith Jones, Michael Fleming, Siobhan Murphy, Margaret O'Mahoney, Mary O'Brien, Winifred Dimsdale, Celine Skupien, Alice Sciberras, Patrick Durham, Bridget McGuinness, Graziano Ferrari, Mary McCullagh, Omolara Meranda, Paul Jessup, Phyllis Gill, Ann Towers, Richard Creak, Paul van Dooren, Patrick Johnston, Margaret Spillane, Bob Hedderman, Francis Crilly, Steve Sturdy, Maurice Leonard Bastiens.

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woollard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Paul, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Jessica Ram, Zygmunt Sobelewski, James Creedon, Baby Hector Winston, Sarah-Marie

DIARY

August

Tue 19 Funeral service for Asher Downer at 11.00
Thurs 21 Requiem of Eugene Kelly at 12.30

September

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Thurs 11 First session of RCIA
Sun 14 Folk Choir anniversary Mass followed by reception in the Hall
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Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk
Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk
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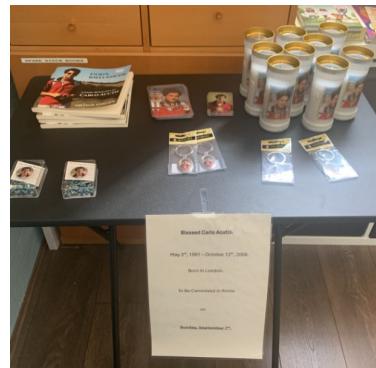
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Sort Code: 60 02 12

Acc No: 14282887

Link to set up a regular donation through ChurchSuite:

<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/>

DOUBLE ISSUE

This newsletter is a double issue covering the next two weeks.

There is usually much less to print during the summer which allows us to put in some stock reminders about the church and some of its processes such as marriage papers and baptism but we've done all this over the last few weeks so will take a short break.

PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL

In the last few weeks a number of people have approached me to request that we re-introduce the Prayer to St Michael to our services.

I am happy to do this and indeed to start using other prayers that are no longer recited so often.

Please let me know of any that you would welcome saying together.

Here is the Prayer to St Michael - the Office will prepare some copies next week that you can use.

Fr Steve

PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL

Holy Michael, Archangel, defend us in the day of battle;

be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil.

*May God rebuke him we humbly pray;
And do thou Prince of the Heavenly Hosts, by
the power of God,*

*Thrust down to hell Satan and all other evil
spirits*

*who wander through the world for the ruin of
souls.*

Amen



MASSES

Sun 17 August

6.00 pm VIGIL
8.00 am
9.30 am
11.00 am **LATIN**
5.30 pm
Twentieth Sunday
Elmary Butler RIP & ints of Kian
Keith Kench RIP
Brian Lennon RIP
Gesuino Collu RIP
For the people

Mon 18 August

10.00 am
Feria
Michael Stannard RIP (1st anniv)

Tues 19 August

10.00 am
Feria
Dec'd benefactors & promoters of
the Claver Sisters
NO ADORATION
Funeral service for
Asher Downer

Wed 20 August

10.00 am
7.30 pm
St Bernard, Abbot
Dec'd benefactors & promoters of
the Claver Sisters
Mass in Hall

Thurs 21 August

10.00 am
12.30 pm
6.00 pm **CLAVER**
St Pius X, Pope
Ints of the Banfield Family
Requiem for Eugene Kelly
Adoration & Benediction

Friday 22 August

10.00 am
**The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin
Mary**
Canon Oliver Heaney RIP

Sat 23 August

10.00 am
6.00 pm VIGIL
Feria (St Rose of Lima)
Margaret Kelleher (b'day)
Patrick Durham RIP

Sun 24 August

8.00 am
9.30 am
11.00 am **LATIN**
5.30 pm
Twentyfirst Sunday
Pat & Mary Cronin RIP
For the people
Fr Alphonse Vianneyraj RIP
Mykeel Seeboruth RIP

Mon 25 August

10.00 am
Feria
Anne Wakerley (b'day)

Tues 26 August

10.00 am
Feria
Margaret Larmer RIP (60th anniv)

Wed 27 August

10.00 am
11.30 am
7.30 pm
St Monica
Janet Maureen Dunn-Browne RIP
& dec'd family members
NO ADORATION
Requiem of Philomena Kelly
Mass in Hall

Thurs 28 August

10.00 am
6.00 pm **CLAVER**
St Augustine, Bishop
Margaret Spillane RIP (4th anniv)
Adoration & Benediction

Friday 29 August

10.00 am
**The Passion of St John
the Baptist**
Nicholas Jordan RIP

Sat 30 August

10.00 am
6.00 pm VIGIL
**Saints Margaret Clitherow, Anne
Line & Margaret Ward, Martyrs**
Ints of Mila Banfield (b'day)
Dante & Angelica Dragonetti RIP

Sun 31 August

8.00 am
9.30 am
11.00 am **LATIN**
5.30 pm
Twentieth Sunday
Thomas & Violet Cronin RIP
For the people
Enedina Floris RIP
Mike Howard & Monica Howard
RIP

We pray for those who have died: Eugene Kelly, Colm Ruddy, Vito Chan, Philomena Kelly.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Cyril Kidd, Bob Ryan, James Rhodes, Keith Jones, Michael Fleming, Siobhan Murphy, Margaret O'Mahoney, Mary O'Brien, Winifred Dimsdale, Celine Skupien, Alice Sciberras, Patrick Durham, Bridget McGuinness, Graziano Ferrari, Mary McCullagh, Omolara Meranda, Paul Jessup, Phyllis Gill, Ann Towers, Richard Creak, Paul van Dooren, Patrick Johnston, Margaret Spillane, Bob Hedderman, Francis Crilly, Steve Sturdy, Maurice Leonard Bastiens.

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woollard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Paul, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Jessica Ram, Zygmunt Sobelewski, James Creedon, Baby Hector Winston, Sarah-Marie

DIARY

August

Tue 19 Funeral service for Asher Downer at 11.00
Thurs 21 Requiem of Eugene Kelly at 12.30

September

Mon 1 Law Surgery in Hall at 6.00 pm
Thurs 11 First session of RCIA
Sun 14 Folk Choir anniversary Mass followed by reception in the Hall
Sat 27 Macmillan Coffee Morning in the Hall
Sat 27 Mass for the Sick at 2.30, followed by refreshments in the Hall

October

Mon 13 CWL Meeting has guest speaker from Mary's Meals. All welcome
Sat 18 & Sat 25 Retreat days for Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers (details to follow)

December

Sat 6 Christmas Fair
Sat 13 Advent Carol Service

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from 5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of each month and bank holidays.

Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence

Next Contemplative Saturday is 13 September, in the Hall from 11.00 am to 12 noon.

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Website: www.saintedmunds.net
Parish Office - Phone: 020 8650 0970 - Email: beckenham@rcaos.org.uk
Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk
Fr John Olaniran - johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk (currently at St Anthony of Padua)
Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk
Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk
Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk
Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915
sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com

Sunday 3 AUGUST 2025 Yr C



There is no Retiring Collection this week.

"Come away by yourselves to a quiet place and rest a while" (Mk 6:31)

On a number of occasions recently Archbishop John Wilson has stated his belief that our priests should ensure they take their day off each week. He has also said that if Masses need to be cancelled to ensure this happens, then they must.

We know you will understand if this has to happen and we will give as much notice as possible.

Fr Andrew has worked tirelessly to support Fr Steve whilst his health has been impaired and he is finally taking a short break, weekdays only, so he is here at weekends to cover the Masses.

We wish Fr Andrew a very enjoyable break.

PLANNED PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE AT ST EDMUND'S

Thank you to our first volunteer to offer to join the team. It would be great if a couple more could get involved. Please contact the Office if you are interested.

SUMMER COFFEE MORNINGS

Thursday Mornings
After 10.00 am Mass
Everyone welcome

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION REGISTRATION

Please sign up at the link below:
<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/events/vkdzikwe>



Knights of St Columba
Serving God by serving others.

NATIONAL RELIC TOUR St Columba of Iona, St Margaret of Scotland & St Andrew the Apostle

Monday and Tuesday 11 & 12 August
St Edmund's will be hosting relics of these three saints.

They will be on display on both mornings during Adoration and also on Monday evening from 6.00 pm for an hour.

Thank you to the Knights of St Columba who have arranged this national tour.

HALL DOOR KEYPAD NUMBER

We have changed the keypad number on the single door into the Hall. All regular users have been notified but if you haven't received the update please contact the Office.



MARRIAGE HELP

Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage.

Next date: 17th-19th Oct. www.retrouveille.org.uk
Tel: 0788 7296983

Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP STARTING SOON

Our next six week Bereavement Support Group will begin on Thursday 18 September meeting weekly at 6.00 pm until 7.30 pm in the Meeting Room of St. Edmund's Hall. This free group is open to everyone, regardless of faith, and offers a supportive space to share and heal.

Spaces are limited to 7 attendees. To find out more or to book your place, please contact the Parish Office on 020 8650 0970 or email beckenhambsg@rcaos.org.uk.

More information is available on the Church Notice Board in the porch.

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

Church Hall
Wednesday 6 August
7.45 pm Praise and Worship
8.00 pm Holy Mass
Celebrant Fr Boniface Arapa
(Uganda)
Followed by Lectio Divina1
10.00 pm Evening concludes

A JOURNEY IN FAITH

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) 2025/26

The RCIA course is for those who would like to learn more about the Catholic Faith or who are interested in joining the Catholic Church. We also welcome baptised adult Catholics who wish to be confirmed.

We are a friendly team who will support you in relaxed and informal weekly sessions. The course lasts from September until June and those who wish to do so can be received into the Church at Easter.

We use the Sycamore course which is a mix of videos and discussion groups and has been well received by previous enquirers. The course is suitable for people at any level of knowledge about Christianity/Catholicism, so if you think you know very little please turn up anyway.

We do not charge for the course and you are free to leave at any time. It is held on Thursday evenings in St Edmunds Hall (opposite the Church). Our next course begins on 11 September at 7.30 pm.

If you would like more information please contact us at faithhub.28@gmail.com or speak to one of our clergy team.

Mary and Cathy.

THE WELL

An Evening of Eucharistic revival with Christopher West and Mike Mangione

On Thursday 11 September from 6.30 pm-9.30 pm, St George's Cathedral is hosting a special evening of beauty, reflection and Eucharistic revival with Christopher West and Mike Mangione.

The heart burns with a mysterious thirst; THE WELL is an invitation to quench that thirst. THE WELL engages the imagination and the senses with live music by Mike Mangione and the dynamic presentation of Christopher West, for a revival like you've never experienced before.

Tickets cost £20 and can be booked via: www.rcaos.org.uk/thewell2025



THE CATENIANS

The Catenians play an important role in strengthening Catholic communities. We meet once a month and organise various social events throughout the year.

Our focus is on faith, friendship and family and we offer the chance to meet fellow Catholics and their families from Beckenham, Hayes and beyond.

We also give money to good causes. In the last year the Beckenham Catenians have raised over £1,250 for the Priest Training Fund of the Southwark Archdiocese.

If you would like to join our association you can be assured of a warm welcome. For more information please phone Andy Holmes on 07890 008 458 or email acncarriaman@ntlworld.com

SVP BECKENHAM HOSTS ART EXHIBITION



On 5 July our local SVP branch hosted art teacher Lucia Boaghe and the works of some of her local artists. This was a free social event for the benefit of our parishioners.

We had parishioners and guests coming in and out of the hall and browsing the many paintings that were on display on three of the four walls of the hall. Not only were there lovely paintings on display for viewing and purchasing, but the art teacher Lucia engaged many willing attendees in a session of still life drawing (bottom left photo).

It was an enjoyable afternoon, with good weather, a relaxed atmosphere, and engaging conversations about the paintings with some of the artists who were present, and some SVP summer raffle ticket sales!

Our local SVP members were on hand as usual serving cups of tea, coffee, and juice with loads of scrumptious cake!

The photos show some of what went on: **top left** – Art teacher Lucia demonstrating how to draw; **bottom left** – impromptu artists with their finished still life drawings; **middle** – SVP members gladly serving refreshments; **top right** – a cross section of people having refreshments and our SVP member selling raffle tickets at the table; **bottom right** – some paintings in the background and an artist in conversation with a parishioner.

A Summer Prayer

Long warm days...
The pace of life slows...
A time for picnics and rest in the shade...
Lord, help me to rest awhile
in the cooling shade of your presence.
Slow down my restless heart and
fill me with
gentle compassion for all your people.
- Author Unknown

MASSES

Sun 3 August Eighteenth Sunday

6.00 pm VIGIL Brigid Weir RIP
8.00 am Canon Gerard Flynn RIP
9.30 am For the people
11.00 am Flora Kennedy RIP
5.30 pm Kitty Casey RIP

Mon 4 August St John Vianney, Priest

10.00 am Private Intention
NO ADORATION

Tues 5 August Feria (The Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major)

10.00 am Mykeel Seeboruth RIP & Rene & Hilda Panglose RIP

Wed 6 August The Transfiguration of the Lord

10.00 am Fr Vincent Convery RIP
7.30 pm Mass in Hall

Thurs 7 August Feria

10.00 am Antonio Cappa RIP
6.00 pm CLAVER Adoration & Benediction

Friday 8 August St Dominic, Priest

10.00 am Miriam Dias (b'day)

Sat 9 August St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross

10.00 am Patrick Dowling RIP
6.00 pm VIGIL Crescenzo & Delisa Panetta RIP

Sun 10 August Nineteenth Sunday

8.00 am Bill & Nora Spillane RIP (anniv)
9.30 am For the people
11.00 am Margaret Paes RIP
5.30 pm The Holy Souls

Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm, and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after morning Mass from Monday to Saturday, unless otherwise announced.

We pray for all who have died: Eugene Kelly, Susan McWilliams, Colm Ruddy, Vito Chan.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Sally Battle, Les Humble, Flora Kennedy, Helen Michael, Maria Rossi, Edna Cahill, Lena O'Flynn, Eleanor Reed, Mary Moger, Karen Stapleton, Margaret Vesey, Nadine Withnell, George Reynolds, Bob Duckworth, Joanne Giacopazzi.

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woollard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Paul, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Jessica Ram, Zygmunt Sobelewski, James Creedon, Baby Hector Winston, Maude Herring, Sarah-Marie Kench.

DIARY

August

Mon 11 Veneration of the relics of Saints Margaret, Columba & Andrew, in the church during Adoration and again at 6.00 pm for an hour.

Tues 12 Relics on display during morning Adoration

Tue 19 Funeral service for Asher Downer at 11.00

Thurs 21 Requiem of Eugene Kelly at 12.30

September

Thurs 11 First session of RCIA

Sun 14 Folk Choir anniversary Mass followed by reception in the Hall

Sat 27 Macmillan Coffee Morning in the Hall

Sat 27 Mass for the Sick at 2.30, followed by refreshments in the Hall

October

Sat 18 & Sat 25 Retreat days for Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

December

Sat 6 Christmas Fair

Sat 13 Advent Carol Service

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Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence

The next two dates for Contemplative Saturday are 9 August and 13 September, in the Hall from 11.00 am to 12 noon.

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Sunday 27 July 2025 Yr C



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If you would like more information please contact us at faithhub.28@gmail.com or speak to one of our clergy team.

Mary and Cathy.

SUMMER COFFEE MORNINGS

Thursday Mornings
After 10.00 am Mass

It was lovely to welcome so many to the first summer coffee morning on Thursday. Thank you to Fr Andrew for joining us. There was lots of talk and laughter and promises to be there next Thursday.



Knights of St Columba
Serving God by serving others.

NATIONAL RELIC TOUR St Columba of Iona, St Margaret of Scotland & St Andrew the Apostle

Monday and Tuesday 11 & 12 August
St Edmund's will be hosting relics of these three saints.

They will be on display both mornings during Adoration and also on Monday evening from 6.00 pm for an hour.

Thank you to the Knights of St Columba who have arranged this national tour.



CANCEL THE DEBT CAMPAIGN

Many thanks to the 147 members of our parish who signed the petition to be presented to World Leaders asking for the cancellation of unjust debt affecting the world's poorest countries and support for a Debt Justice Law.

If you didn't have an opportunity to sign, please go to cafod.org.uk/cancelthedebt, where you can read more about this crisis and sign the petition online.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION REGISTRATION

Please sign up at the link below:
<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/events/vkdzikwe>

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BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP STARTING SOON

Our next six week Bereavement Support Group will begin on Thursday 18 September meeting weekly at 6.00 pm until 7.30 pm in the Meeting Room of St. Edmund's Hall. This free group is open to everyone, regardless of faith, and offers a supportive space to share and heal.

Spaces are limited to 7 attendees. To find out more or to book your place, please contact the Parish Office at 020 8650 0970 or email beckenhambsg@rcaos.org.uk.

More information is available on the Church Notice Board in the porch.

PART TIME SUMMER JOB

A young parishioner is looking for part time (8-12 hours per week) paid summer work. Please contact Mark on 0793 4810 468 if you have any such work.

Thank you

MASS INTENTIONS

We have many parishioners who regularly remember their friends and family at our Masses, but there are many parishioners who may never have requested a Mass intention and are unsure of how to go about it.

It is very straightforward. The Office needs to know the name of the person you wish to be prayed for - just their name will do - or you can give a brief reason why prayers are being requested. You can ask for a weekday Mass or a Sunday Mass, but it helps if you are not date and time specific, unless the date is important (anniversary or birthday) in which case it is necessary to contact the Office well in advance.

A Mass offering (stipend) is always offered when a Mass is requested. The diocese suggests a **minimum of £10.00**.

Requests can be made to the Office, by email, or by a note through the letter box, and payment can be made by ChurchSuite Donate or cheque or cash.

We will take requests at the door but prefer to receive them in writing, particularly if you are submitting a number of requests.

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

Church Hall
Wednesday 30 July

7.45 pm Praise and Worship
8.00 pm Holy Mass
Celebrant Fr Uduak Abara
(Beckenham Hill)
Followed by a talk from Fr Bill Keogh
Fellowship
10.00 pm Evening concludes

PLANNED PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE AT ST EDMUNDS

We have recently commissioned a Planned Preventative Maintenance (PPM) Report for the church, presbytery and church hall. The report identifies critical and preventative measures required following the surveyor's inspection. As you can imagine the report is far reaching and includes the major work required outside and inside the tower.

We would like to put together a team to oversee and manage the implementation of the advice contained in the report. This role may suit someone with buildings experience, a surveyor, builder, architect. We know St Edmund's parishioners have many talents and would appreciate their input on the upkeep of our beautiful church.

Please speak to one of the priests after Mass or contact the parish office and get involved with the upkeep of your church.

We cannot move forward without help so please, if you have the skills we need, do get in touch.

TEAS & COFFEES ON SUNDAY MORNING

Thank you to the team of parishioners who offer refreshments after 9.30 am Mass each week. Your volunteering gives parishioners the opportunity to socialise and make and maintain friendships and we are so grateful for this.

We look forward to welcoming you back in September.

If anyone would like to join the team and be put on the rota, please let the Office know.

MASSES

Sun 27 July	Seventeenth Sunday
6.00 pm VIGIL	For the people
8.00 am	Janet Maureen Dunn Browne RIP
	& dec'd family members
9.30 am	Leonard Pope RIP
11.00 am LATIN	Magdalene Thomas RIP
5.30 pm	For Rafal on his birthday

Mon 28 July	Feria
10.00 am	Dominic Geoghan RIP

Tues 29 July	Sts Mary, Martha & Lazarus
10.00 am	Richard Wallner RIP (5th anniv)

Wed 30 July	Feria
10.00 am	Olga Chalker RIP
7.30 pm	Mass in Hall

Thurs 31 July	St Ignatius of Loyola
10.00 am	Ints of Denis Brennan
1.30 pm	Requiem of Clare West
6.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration

Friday 1 August	St Alphonsus Liguori
10.00 am	Eileen Curley RIP (10th anniv)
6.30 pm	Rosary & Confession
7.00 pm	Jubilee Mass

Sat 2 August	Feria
10.00 am	Fr Martin O'Connor RIP
6.00 pm VIGIL	Brigid Weir RIP

Sun 3 August	Eighteenth Sunday
8.00 am	Canon Gerard Flynn RIP
9.30 am	For the people
11.00 am	Flora Kennedy RIP
5.30 pm	Kitty Casey RIP

Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm, and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after morning Mass from Monday to Saturday, unless otherwise announced.

Wherever you are in the world, from Abersoch in Wales to Zapopan in Mexico, this website can give you the times of Mass at a church near you.

<https://masstimes.org/>

Thank you for all your good wishes, prayers and support over the last few weeks. Some days are better than others but I have still got a long way to go.

Fr Steve

We pray for all who have died: Joan Taylor, Clare West, Hedwig Harper, Eugene Kelly, Kimberley Rose O'Hara, Susan McWilliams,

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Barbara Mary Davies, Malcolm Paes, Derek Butler, Leonard Pope, Peter Brabyn, John Xamena, Baby Olivia & Isabelle English, Betty Clark, Anthony Pinkett, John Cameron McShane, Dominic Geoghegan, Peter Warren, Ivan Farnon, Peter Devine, Cormac Hargreaves, Zolzislaw Jaworski, Joy Scully, Emma Panas, Joanne Cummins-Hylton, Eileen Curley, Christina Byrne, Malcolm Hyland.

We pray for those who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woppard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Paul, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Jessica Ram, Zygmunt Sobelewski, James Creedon, Baby Hector Winston, Maude Herring, Sarah-Marie Kench.

DIARY

July

Thurs 31 Requiem of Clare West at 1.30. Clare was the sister of Sheila Lake.

August

Tue 19 Funeral service for Asher Downer at 11.00

Thurs 21 Requiem of Eugene Kelly at 12.30

September

Thurs 11 First session of RCIA

Sat 27 Macmillan Coffee Morning in the Hall

October

Sat 18 & Sat 25 Retreat days for Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

December

Sat 6 Christmas Fair

Sat 13 Advent Carol Service

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Fr John Olaniran - johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk (currently at St Anthony of Padua)
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Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915
sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com

Sunday 20 July 2025 Yr C



There is no Retiring Collection this week.

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU

Annie and I would like to thank everyone for the wonderful send off that you gave us last weekend. It was a very emotional day, and we are so grateful for your love, your gifts, and your cards. It was a pleasure to celebrate our 'final' Mass at St Edmunds and to share the joy of renewing our wedding vows in front of our children and so many friends.

We have many happy memories of the last 35 years at St Edmund's, thank you all for being part of our Faith journey.

I will be continuing my diaconal ministry, and Annie will be starting new projects at St Augustine's in Tunbridge Wells, and if you are in the area we would love to see you. My diocesan email address remains the same, so please feel free to keep in touch.

You remain in our prayers, God Bless,

Deacon Ray

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Please speak to one of the priests after Mass or contact the parish office and get involved with the upkeep of your church.

Thank you, Fr Steve

CAFOD CAMPAIGN TO CANCEL THE DEBT

In this Jubilee Year CAFOD is working with our sister Caritas organisations around the world to call for urgent action on the global debt crisis. Many of the world's poorest countries are suffering huge debt burdens with devastating effects on ordinary people. Pope Francis spoke about this many times, saying, 'More than a question of generosity, this is a matter of justice.'

There will be an appeal at Masses this weekend asking you to sign the worldwide Church petition on this issue. Please sign the petition on your way into or out of Mass.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Children who will be entering Yr 3, and other primary school children who have not yet received this sacrament can apply now for a place on the course which will start in September.

Please sign up at the link below:
<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/events/vkdzikwe>

Registration will close on August 25

Families must live within the parish boundary to qualify for a place.

Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.

LADY CHAPEL

We have had a speedy response from the Art & Architecture Committee from whom we sought advice about what we would be able to do in the chapel. The chair is grateful we contacted them at this early stage and Canon John Weatherill has promised to come to view the chapel himself to give us advice.



ADVANCE NOTICE

We will be holding a MacMillan Coffee Morning in the Church Hall on Saturday, 27 September.

More details will follow!

Nearer the time we would welcome donations of homemade cakes, cookies etc to sell.

Suggested recipes will be available or please make your own tried and tested cakes!

Any queries contact Cathy via the Office.

MUSIC, MUSIC, MUSIC

Our three music groups, the 9.30 Choir, the Chorale and the Folk Choir will sing at their respective Masses this weekend and then take a well earned break until 7 September.

Thank you to every one of them. They enrich our Masses and our special celebrations and their presence is rather taken for granted. We shall miss them over the next few weeks.

When they restart in September, each group would welcome new voices. If you are interested let the office know and we will put you in touch with them, or wait until September and introduce yourself after Mass.

MESSAGE FROM THE FOLK CHOIR

Mass on 14 September will be a Celebration and Thanks for 55 years of the Folk Choir. (we missed 50 years due to Lockdown).

We would love to welcome as many former members and supporters as possible.

There will be a reception in the Hall after Mass - all parishioners will be very welcome.



A JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA).

If you are interested in becoming a Catholic or learning more about the Catholic faith then our next RCIA course begins on 11 September.

Meetings are held weekly on Thursday evenings.

If you would like any more information about the course, please contact us on: faithhub.28@gmail.com.

MOTHERS AND TODDLERS GROUP

This Monday will be the last gathering before the group breaks for the summer. It will start up again on Monday 6 September



SUMMER COFFEE MORNINGS

Thursday Mornings
After 10.00 am Mass

All are welcome to come to the Hall on Thursday mornings to meet up and chat with parishioners, friends and family.

It would be good to see some of our young families joining in. You are welcome even if you haven't gone to morning Mass!

Spacious 2 bedroom ground floor flat for sale with own large garden. Close to all amenities - 5 minute's walk from St Mary's School. Asking price £405,000.

If interested please contact seller on 0798 405 4576

Would the mum with a child in Yr 2 at St Mary's, who came into the Office during the week to book the Hall for a party at the end of August please get in touch. We have had a computer glitch and your email address has disappeared.

LONDON CATHOLIC SOCIAL GROUP

has a number of planned events for Catholic adults over 30.

Sunday 20 July, from 12, Mass. Italian Street Fête and Procession of Our Lady of Saint Carmel in Clerkenwell.

Saturday 26 July, day trip to Waddesdon Manor.

Sunday 3 August, picnic in Regent's Park.

Contact us on:

WhatsApp Brendan 0742 554 9408,
Facebook – 'London Catholic Social Group'
or londonswcatholicsocial@gmail.com'.

MARRIAGE CARE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Marriage Care is a Catholic organisation that helps couples form and sustain healthy marriages and provides support in times of relationship difficulty. It has been operating for nearly 80 years and we are keen to try and find more volunteers to help with this important work. There are various ways in which volunteers can become involved, as outlined under the *Get Involved* section of our website marriagecare.org.uk.

We are currently looking for Marriage Preparation Course Facilitators to prepare couples for the Sacrament of Marriage. Full training is provided for this role, which mostly delivers courses online to couples across the country.

There are other ways of supporting our work too, for example by helping with our communications and administration or being on the reception at our centre in Blackheath for one or two evenings a month.

For more information please email:
volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk

or the local centre co-ordinator:
Tony.Lawrence@marriagecare.org.

75th Anniversary of the
Consecration of St Edmund's

HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAYS

Friday saw schools break up for the summer. We wish all of you a well deserved break. To our wonderful teachers we hope these few weeks bring you rest and renewal.

If you are fortunate enough to be going away please look online for your nearest Catholic church. Many of the smaller ones rely on the summer visitors to keep them afloat.

SUMMER TRAVEL PRAYER

Loving and merciful God, you have commissioned your angels to guide and protect us.

Command them to be with us from our leaving until our return; keep us safe from all injury, accident or malice and sin.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord,

Author Unknown

THE JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever.

Amen

Pope Francis - Prayer (iubilaeum2025.va)

MASSES

Sun 20 July	Sixteenth Sunday
6.00 pm VIGIL	Antonio Panetta & Family RIP
8.00 am	In thanksgiving - Melissa Cuyril
9.30 am	Josephine Uche RIP & Leonard Orji RIP
11.00 am LATIN	Anna Floris, Annita Giorri & dec'd family members.
5.30 pm	For the people

Mon 21 July	Feria
10.00 am	Joanna Duguid RIP
Tues 22 July	St Mary Magdalene
10.00 am	Norah Coughlan RIP
	Adoration until 11.00 am
12.30 am	Funeral service for Theresa Belfon RIP

Wed 23 July	St Bridget
9.00 am	End of term Mass at St Mary's
10.00 am	Ints of the Hodgson Family
7.30 pm	Mass in Hall

Thurs 24 July	Feria
10.00 am	Ned Prendergast RIP
6.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration

Friday 25 July	St James, Apostle
10.00 am	Dec'd benefactors & promoters of the Claver Sisters

Sat 26 July	Sts Joachim & Anne, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary
10.00 am	Paul Van Dooren RIP
6.00 pm VIGIL	For the people

Sun 27 July	Seventeenth Sunday
8.00 am	Janet Maureen Dunn Browne RIP & dec'd family members
9.30 am	Leonard Popo RIP
11.00 am LATIN	Magdalene Thomas RIP
5.30 pm	For Rafal on his birthday

Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm, and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after morning Mass from Monday to Saturday, unless otherwise announced.

Wherever you are in the world, from Abersoch in Wales to Zapopan in Mexico, this website can give you the times of Mass at a church near you.

<https://masstimes.org/>

We pray for all who have died: Joan Taylor, Clare West, Theresa Belfon, Hedwig Harper, Cal Connelly, Eugene Kelly, Kimberley Rose O'Hara.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Christina Carroll, Thomas Alfred Morris, Bridget D'Souza, Helen Gardner Richards, Joseph McHugh, Oswaldo Paya, Harold Cepero, Matthew Mukuro, Mary Cooman, Liam Bernard Hayes, Tomek Lehnert, Daphne Hoyles, Josie Croft, Thomas Brown.

We pray for those who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woppard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Susan McWilliams, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Paul, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Jessica Ram, Zygmunt Sobelewski, James Creedon, Baby Hector Winston, Maude Herring, Sarah-Marie Kench.

DIARY

July

Tue 22 Requiem of Theresa Belfon at 12.30
Thur 31 Requiem of Clare West at 1.30

August

Tue 19 Funeral service for Asher Downer at 11.00
Thu 21 Requiem of Eugene Kelly at 12.30

September

Thurs 11 First session of RCIA
Sat 27 Macmillan Coffee Morning in the Hall

October

Sat 18 & Sat 25 Retreat days for Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

December

Sat 6 Christmas Fair
Sat 13 Advent Carol Service

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from 5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of each month and bank holidays.

Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence

Bank details to set up a regular standing order:

Account name: RCAS Beckenham

Sort Code: 60 02 12

Acc No: 14282887

Link to set up a regular donation through ChurchSuite:

<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/donate/>

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Website: www.saintedmunds.net

Parish Office - Phone: 020 8650 0970 - Email: beckenham@rcaos.org.uk

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk

Fr John Olaniran - johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk (currently at St Anthony of Padua)

Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Séan Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Ray Williamson - raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk

Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardSG3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915

Sunday 13 July 2025 Yr C



The second collection is for Stella Maris



The second collection at Masses this weekend will be for Stella Maris. Stella Maris (formerly Apostleship of the Sea) is a Catholic charity supporting seafarers worldwide. It provides practical and pastoral care to all seafarers, regardless of nationality or belief. Stella Maris relies wholly on voluntary contributions and can only continue its work through the generous donations of its supporters and particularly this collection today.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Children who will be entering Yr 3, and other primary school children who have not yet received this sacrament can apply now for a place on the course which will start in September.

Please sign up at the link below:

<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/events/vkdzikwe>

Registration will close on August 25

Families must live within the parish boundary to qualify for a place.

300 CLUB

Our July winners are:

Francesca Fear	£100
Anne Davies	£50
Tsui Ta Smith	£25

Congratulations to them. Membership is £39 a ticket. Please get in touch with the Office if you would like to join.

You have to be in it to win it!

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Could we remind all newsletter contributors that the deadline for items is noon on Wednesday.

A pair of women's spectacles was left in the church last Sunday.
Please ask at the sacristy after Mass if you have lost a pair.

FAREWELL CELEBRATION THIS SUNDAY



Please join us in the Hall this Sunday after the 9.30 am Mass to bid farewell to Deacon Ray and Annie who are moving away from Beckenham.

Ray and Annie have been involved in almost everything that happens in our parish and they will be greatly missed.

SUMMER COFFEE MORNINGS

Thursday Mornings
In the Hall or the garden
After 10.00 am Mass
24 July to 26 August

This is a lovely opportunity to meet up and chat with parishioners, friends and family.

We need volunteers for these six weeks, probably only two per session, to set up, serve the drinks and clear away.

Cathy Denne is arranging a rota so please let the Office know that you can help and we will pass on your name.



A LIFECHANGING OPPORTUNITY!

Do you desire to know Jesus more intimately?

The Archbishop's Certificate (ArchCert) is a two-year online course for all in Southwark and beyond who wish to understand their faith in a more profound way and be able to share it with both confidence and joy.

The course will commence on 18 October and the cost will be £400 per year. The full cost of the course, payable over 2 years is £800. Registration must be completed in advance and there is a non-refundable registration fee of £50. Further details can be found here: <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/archcert>

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Day of Retreat for Lectors & Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

Saturday 18 October

Saturday 25 October

Further information about the day after the holidays.

A JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA).



If you are interested in becoming a Catholic or learning more about the Catholic faith then our next RCIA course begins on 11 September.

Meetings are held weekly on Thursday evenings.

If you would like any more information about the course, please contact us on: faithhub.28@gmail.com.



The Catenians play an important role in strengthening Catholic communities. Their focus is on faith, friendship and family. They also raise money for good causes.

If you would like to learn more about the association or maybe come to one of the monthly meetings of the Beckenham branch, please contact Andy Holmes at

**acncarriman@ntlworld.com
or 07890 008 458**

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

Church Hall

Wednesday 16 July

7.45 pm Praise and Worship

8.00 pm Holy Mass

Celebrant Fr Boniface Arapa
(Uganda)

Followed by Prayer Meeting

10.00 pm Evening concludes

NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE OF REPARATION & PRAYER FOR THE SANCTITY OF LIFE

Saturday 2 August

A pilgrimage to Walsingham to be led by Bishop John Keenan of Paisley.

Everyone is invited to join in this pilgrimage either in person or via the Shrine livestream at <https://www.walsingham.org.uk/livestream/>.

Details of the day can be found at:
www.prolifepilgrimage.org

SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

There are still a few places available on the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes from 22 to 29 August this year.

For information and booking, please see <https://www.tangney-tours.com/diocese-pilgrimages/diocese-ca/>

Further information is available from Bishop Paul: paulhendricks@rcaos.org.uk or Canon Perera: edwardperera@rcaos.org.uk

LONDON CATHOLIC SOCIAL GROUP

has a number of planned events for Catholic adults over 30.

Sunday 20 July, from 12, Mass. Italian Street Fête and Procession of Our Lady of Saint Carmel in Clerkenwell.

Saturday 26 July, day trip to Waddesdon Manor.

Sunday 3 August, picnic in Regent's Park.

Contact us on:

WhatsApp Brendan 0742 554 9408,
Facebook – 'London Catholic Social Group'
or londonswcatholicsocial@gmail.com.

MARRIAGE CARE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Marriage Care is a Catholic organisation that helps couples form and sustain healthy marriages and provides support in times of relationship difficulty. It has been operating for nearly 80 years and we are keen to try and find more volunteers to help with this important work. There are various ways in which volunteers can become involved, as outlined under the *Get Involved* section of our website marriagecare.org.uk.

We are currently looking for Marriage Preparation Course Facilitators to prepare couples for the Sacrament of Marriage. Full training is provided for this role, which mostly delivers courses online to couples across the country.

There are other ways of supporting our work too, for example by helping with our communications and administration or being on the reception at our centre in Blackheath for one or two evenings a month.

For more information please email:
volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk

or the local centre co-ordinator:
Tony.Lawrence@marriagecare.org.

75th Anniversary of the
Consecration of St Edmund's

DIACONAL DAY

On Sunday 13 July we are celebrating our second Archdiocesan Diaconal Day, during which we pray for the Permanent Deacons serving in our Archdiocese as well as praying for the new vocations to this ministry. If you are a man between 21 to 58 years, prayerful, with the desire to love God and God's people, you are involved in services within your parish and community, you have tried many things and still feel drawn to a closer relationship with Christ and His Church you might possibly be called to be a Permanent Deacon?

If you require further information about the Permanent Diaconate, please speak to your Parish Priest, (the Parish Deacon, if there is one), or contact the Diaconate Formation Director via e-mail: ianblack@rcaos.org.uk.

THE JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever.

Amen

Pope Francis - Prayer (jubilaeum2025.va

MASSES

Sun 13 July	Fifteenth Sunday
6.00 pm VIGIL	Crescenzo & Delisa Panetta RIP
8.00 am	For the people
9.30 am	For the intentions of Ray & Annie Williamson & their family & to thank God for 35 years of marriage
11.00 am	In thanksgiving - Magdalene Thomas RIP
5.30 pm	Lulu Baron RIP
Mon 14 July	Feria
10.00 am	Monica Grima RIP
Until 11.00 am	Adoration
12.00 pm	Requiem for Gloria Scannapieco-Rubano
Tues 15 July	St Bonaventure, Bishop
10.00 am	Hans Halpin - for health and blessings
Wed 16 July	Our Lady of Mount Carmel
10.00 am	George Mariathas RIP
7.30 pm	Mass in Hall
Thurs 17 July	Feria
10.00 am	For Holy Souls in Purgatory
6.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration
Friday 18 July	Feria
10.00 am	Ints of Stephen & Manesha Banfield
Sat 19 July	The Blessed Virgin Mary
10.00 am	John & Freda Locke RIP
6.00 pm VIGIL	Antonio Panetta & Family RIP
Sun 20 July	Sixteenth Sunday
8.00 am	In thanksgiving - Melissa Cuyril
9.30 am	Josephine Uche RIP & Leonard Orji RIP
11.00 am LATIN	Anna Floris, Annita Giorri & dec'd family members.
5.30 pm	For the people

Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm, and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after morning Mass from Monday to Saturday, unless otherwise announced.



I can do all things through Christ

We pray for all who have died: Joan Taylor, Clare West, Theresa Belfon, Gloria Scannapieco-Rubano, Hedwig Harper, Cal Connelly, Eugene Kelly.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Anna Newton, Geoff Wallis, Joyce Greaves, Maryann Lilly, Agnes Olarita, Maurice Tydings, Anthony Guinle, Margaret Theodorides, Clifford Moore, Charles Boulton, Christina Carroll, Joanna Duguid.

We pray for those who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woppard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Susan McWilliams, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Paul, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Jessica Ram, Zygmunt Sobelewski, James Creedon, Baby Hector Winston, Maude Herring.

DIARY

July	
Sun 13	Farewell reception for Deacon Ray & Annie in Hall after 9.30 Mass
Mon 14	Requiem of Gloria Scannapieco-Rubano at noon
Mon 14	CWL meeting in the Hall 2.00 pm
Sat 19	Contemplative Saturday in the Hall 11-12 noon
Tue 22	Requiem of Theresa Belfon at 12.30
Thur 31	Requiem of Clare West at 1.30
October	
Sat 18 &	Retreat days for Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers
Sat 25	
December	
Sat 6	Christmas Fair
Sat 13	Carol Concert

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from 5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of each month and bank holidays.

Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence

Contemplative Saturday
19 July in the Hall from 11—12

Bank details to set up a regular standing order:

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Sort Code: 60 02 12

Acc No: 14282887

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<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/donate/>

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20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Website: www.saintedmunds.net

Parish Office - Phone: 020 8650 0970 - Email: beckenham@rcaos.org.uk

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk

Fr John Olaniran - johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk (currently at St Anthony of Padua)

Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Séan Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Ray Williamson - raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk

Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915

Sunday 6 July 2025 Yr C



UPDATE ON THE LADY CHAPEL

We had a productive meeting this morning (Friday) with a representative from the diocese. He confirmed that any proposals need to be agreed by the diocese and we will be submitting information to them next week.

UPDATE ON FR STEVE

Fr Steve's final surgical procedure was on Wednesday and went well. The recovery process will be the same as for the previous one so he will be unable to say Mass for a while. He is very grateful for all the prayers that are being offered for him.

We are so thankful for the priests who have stepped in and enabled us to celebrate all our Masses at the weekend over the last couple of months.

MASS ON FRIDAY 11 JULY

On Friday 11 July, we welcome a Pilgrimage of Hope visit by children from St Anthony's School in Dulwich.



Mass that morning will be moved back to 11.00 am, and we hope that many parishioners will come at this time to celebrate Mass with the children.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Could we remind all newsletter contributors that the deadline for items is noon on Wednesday.

LAW SURGERY

Law Surgery is this **Monday July 7**.

Please come to the side door of the Hall at 6.00 pm and you will be seen in turn.

There is no Law Surgery in August

BUGGY PARK

The weekend when we welcome the Family Mass into the church, could we ask parents to take a look around and see if they could come up with some ideas to make it easier and safer for them to keep their buggies with them whilst they are in church.

Our church was not designed to house push chairs and buggies and we are going to have to re-arrange some things to safely accommodate them within the church. We have people looking at this but would welcome any thoughts from those who come to this Mass. Please let the Office know.

In the meantime we have removed the table in the porch to leave space for parents who are happy to leave their buggies there, but for those that need to bring one into church, could we ask them to keep the fire exits clear and not block the aisles.

75TH ANNIVERSARY CANDLES

To celebrate our 75th anniversary and to raise funds to renovate the Lady Chapel we commissioned some beautiful hand made candles.

These are hand poured, slow burning and long lasting, using only organic ingredients; they are beautifully packaged and would make perfect gifts. They are available from the church shop or the Parish Office at £20.

The young man who made them received all his sacraments at St Edmund's and attended St Mary's School.

The sale of these candles will raise over £2000 which will go to the Lady Chapel Fund.



CALLED TO CARE FOR CREATION

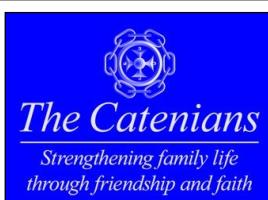
Catholics from across the diocese are joining CAFOD at the 'Act Now, Change Forever' mass lobby of Parliament on Wednesday 9 July. This is a chance to live out our faith by urging leaders to act on the climate crisis, which is already affecting the world's poorest communities.

To take part you can register [here](#). To connect with others from our area, email Sarah and Celeste at southwark@cafod.org.uk

PILGRIMAGE MASS FOR THE TRANSLATION OF ST THOMAS BECKET

The Papal Nuncio will be celebrating the annual Mass in Canterbury Cathedral to commemorate the Translation of the Relics of St Thomas of Canterbury. The Mass will be celebrated at 7.00 pm on **Monday 7 July**. All are invited to attend this important annual celebration.

Online booking is essential to secure access to the Cathedral. Further information from:
<https://canterburyjubilee2025.com>



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Meetings are held weekly on Thursday evenings.

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faithhub.28@gmail.com.

LONDON CATHOLIC SOCIAL GROUP

has a number of planned events for Catholic adults over 30.

Saturday July 12, Monthly Social at the One Tun pub, Goodge Street.

Sunday 20 July, from 12, Mass. Italian Street Fête and Procession of Our Lady of Saint Carmel in Clerkenwell.

Saturday 26 July, day trip to Waddesdon Manor.

Sunday 3 August, picnic in Regent's Park.

Contact us on:
WhatsApp Brendan 0742 554 9408,
Facebook – 'London Catholic Social Group'
or londonswcatholicsocial@gmail.com.

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FAREWELL CELEBRATION

Please join us in the Hall on Sunday 13 July after the 9.30 Mass at a party to bid farewell to Deacon Ray and Annie who are moving into rural Kent.

Ray and Annie have been involved in almost everything that happens in our parish and they will be greatly missed.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Day of Retreat for Lectors & Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

Saturday 18 October

Saturday 25 October

Further information about the day after the holidays.

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a celebration for St Faustina's birthday at Aylesford Priory on Bank Holiday Monday 25 August, from 10:30 am to 4.00 pm. The reflection day will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration, Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Call Millie on 0795 759 4646 for more information. There will be a coach starting from Victoria.

Would any one who loaned us pictures for the memory display for the 75th celebration please come to the Office to collect them.

Thank you so much for trusting us with them.

Margretta, who was responsible for the display is putting all the material together in a booklet which will be available later in our jubilee year.

SVP ART EXHIBITION

If you are reading this newsletter on Friday, why not come down to the Hall at 3.00 pm tomorrow to see the art exhibition being put on by our SVP, and enjoy some refreshments in the garden.

WALK THE AUGUSTINE CAMINO FOR MARY'S MEALS

1 September – 8 September

Join us for the whole pilgrimage or walk with us for a day

During this Jubilee Year we would be delighted if you joined us as Pilgrims of Hope on some or all of the Augustine Camino, starting at Rochester Cathedral, finishing at the Shrine of St Augustine in Ramsgate. The pilgrimage will take us to four of the designated Jubilee churches and shrines in Southwark Archdiocese:

The Friars, Aylesford

St Jude's Shrine, Faversham

St Thomas of Canterbury, Canterbury

St Augustine's Shrine, Ramsgate

To book your place, or to ask any questions, please contact Roy Peachey, the Mary's Meals Supporter Engagement Officer for Kent, Surrey, Sussex and South London, on 07593 447297 or

roy.peachey@marysmeals.org.uk

PARKING ON THE PRESBYTERY FORECOURT

Parking on the forecourt is not permitted unless you have prior authorization from the clergy team or the parish office.

The forecourt is reserved for clergy use, and for those who have meetings in the presbytery.

If bollards have been put out

PLEASE DO NOT MOVE THEM.

They are there for a reason.

We are sorry to keep repeating this message but cars are still being left.

No one should park their car on the pavement next to the yew tree on the right hand side of the church.



MASSES

Sun 6 July **Fourteenth Sunday**

6.00 pm VIGIL
8.00 am
9.30 am
FAMILY MASS
11.00 am
5.30 pm

John Sharpe RIP
For the people
Barry Marchant RIP
In thanksgiving – the Ekong Family
For Maks on his birthday

Mon 7 July **Feria**

10.00 am
Health & blessings for Imelda
Halpin & her family

Tues 8 July **Feria**

10.00 am
Dec'd benefactors & promoters of
the Claver Sisters

Wed 9 July **Feria**

10.00 am
11.30 am
7.30 pm

Teresa Ward RIP
Requiem of Margaret Paes
Mass in Hall

Thurs 10 July **Feria**

10.00 am
6.00 pm CLAVER

Michelle Alagaratnam - in thanks
giving
Adoration

Friday 11 July **St Benedict, Abbot, Patron of Europe****10.00 am** **NO MASS**

11.00 am
John Fry RIP
Pilgrimage Mass for pupils from
St Anthony's School, East Dulwich

Sat 12 July **Our Lady**

10.00 am
6.00 pm VIGIL

Ints of Emmanuel Hirschauer
Crescenzo & Delisa Panetta RIP

Sun 13 July **Fifteenth Sunday**

8.00 am
9.30 am
11.00 am
5.30 pm

For the people
for the intentions of Ray & Annie
Williamson & their family & to
thank God for 35 years of marriage
In thanksgiving – the Ekong Family
Lulu Baron RIP

Confessions are every Saturday from
10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm,
and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and
Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after morning Mass
from Monday to Saturday, unless
otherwise announced.

**75th
Anniversary of the
consecration of
St Edmund's**

We pray for all who have died: Margaret Paes, Joan Taylor, Clare West, Theresa Belton, Gloria Scannapieco-Rubano

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Norah Leigh, Eileen Graves, Tommy Ruddy, Sarah Bamford, Arthur Donnelly, John McAvoy, Peter Matthewman, Marie Denny, Joseph Coakely, Brian Coakley, Barry Marchant, Patricia Sooden, James Hannan, Johnny Lobo, Sarah Kabanda, Josephine Bogue, Ramsam Candassamy, Michael furlong, Mary 'Maureen' Wiggins.

We pray for those who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Hedwig Harper, Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woollard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna Sookram, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Susan McWilliams, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Paul, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Jessica Ram, Zygmunt

DIARY

July

Sat 5 SVP Art Exhibition in the Hall at 3.00 pm
Mon 7 Law Surgery in Hall from 6.00 pm
Wed 9 Requiem of Margaret Paes at 11.30 am
(Margaret was the mother of Rose
Remedios)
Sun 13 Farewell reception for Deacon Ray &
Annie in Hall after 9.30 Mass
Mon 14 Requiem of Gloria Scannapieco-
Rubano at noon
Tue 22 Requiem of Theresa Belton at 12.30

October

Sat 18 & Sat 25 Retreat days for Lectors &
Eucharistic Ministers

December

Sat 6 Christmas Fair

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from
5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of
each month and bank holidays.

Please respect the need to arrive promptly and
observe the silence

**Bank details to set up a regular
standing order:**

Account name: RCAS Beckenham

Sort Code: 60 02 12

Acc No: 14282887

Link to set up a regular donation through
ChurchSuite:

<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/donate/>

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Website: www.saintedmunds.net

Parish Office - Phone: 020 8650 0970 - Email: beckenham@rcaos.org.uk

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk

Fr John Olaniran - johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk (currently at St Anthony of Padua)

Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Séan Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Ray Williamson - raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk

Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915

Sunday 29 June 2025

Yr C



RETIRING COLLECTION FOR PETER'S PENCE

UPDATE ON FR STEVE

The procedure that Fr Steve was due to have on 19 June was first re-scheduled for 30 July, and then brought forward to next Wednesday.

Consequently standing to celebrate Mass continues to cause him considerable discomfort. Don't be misled by the apparent ease with which he walks. He has worked hard on this.

This next procedure will mean that he will not be able to celebrate Masses for another fortnight.

We are due to have a visiting priest for July and August but as yet we don't know his arrival date. Until we do we may have to cancel some morning Masses but Fr Steve continues to try to find cover so this doesn't have to happen..

BUGGY PARK

The weekends when we welcome the Family Mass into the church are causing some issues we need to address.

Our church was not designed to house push chairs and buggies and we are going to have to re-arrange some things to safely accommodate them within the church. We have people looking at this but would welcome any thoughts from those who come to this Mass. Please let the Office know.

In the meantime we are removing the table in the porch to leave space for parents who are happy to leave their buggies there, but for those that need to bring one into church, could we ask them to keep the fire exits clear and not block the aisles.

MASSES ON FRIDAY 4 & 11 JULY

Bishop Challoner School will be celebrating its final Mass on the morning of July 4. It will be the very last Mass at the school.

Fr Steve and Fr Andrew will be concelebrating which means that we are unable to have Mass in St Edmund's that morning though there will be an evening Mass in the church at 7.00 pm, preceded at 6.30 by the Rosary.

We know that you will understand the priests need to be with the school that morning and ask you to keep all members of the school community in your prayers.

The following Friday 11 July, we are welcoming a Pilgrimage of Hope visit from children from St Anthony's School in Dulwich. Mass that morning will be moved back to 11.00 am, and we hope that many parishioners will come at this time to celebrate the Mass with the children.



LADY CHAPEL REFURBISHMENT

Thank you to those who came to this meeting. The initial discussion was to consider how the Lady Chapel could be used in the future as this would dictate how it needed to be remodelled. The possible uses are clearly as a chapel dedicated to Our Lady, but also as a space for baptisms, small weddings, Masses, bible study, confessions, discussion groups, private prayer, Adoration and meditation.

Those present identified enhancements that could be discussed in the future but, the major hurdle will be the different floor levels in the chapel and also the difficulty of access to it as there are steps at the entrance which are also very close to a fire escape.

Before plans are further developed we have applied to the diocesan team responsible for the fabric of our churches to see what they will allow us to do.

We hope to hear from them soon and will call the next meeting then.

SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

There are still a few places available on the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes from 22 to 29 August this year.

For information and booking, please see <https://www.tangney-tours.com/diocese-pilgrimages/diocese-ca/>

There is a range of hotels available, though most Southwark pilgrims will be staying at the Hotel Eliseo.

Further information is available from Bishop Paul: paulhendricks@rcaos.org.uk or Canon Perera: edwardperera@rcaos.org.uk

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM CAFOD

MASS LOBBY IN WESTMINSTER WEDNESDAY 9 JULY

Will you join us in the 'Act Now, Change Forever' mass lobby of Parliament on Wednesday 9 July 2025 along with thousands of people from across the country?

Register your interest now and we'll keep you updated as plans develop. This link, cafod.org.uk/masslobby will take you to The Climate Coalition website, as you need to be registered officially to meet your MP. The Climate Coalition will send you logistical information about the lobby, but your details will not be shared and you won't receive emails from The Climate Coalition after the lobby itself.

LAW SURGERY

Law Surgery is this Monday.

Please come to the side door of the Hall at 6.00 pm and you will be seen in turn.

There is no Law Surgery in August

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST MEETING

Wednesday 2 July at 7.45 pm

7.45 pm Praise and Worship

8.00 pm Holy Mass

Celebrant Fr Anthony Meglalan Sellam

Holy Cross, Catford

Followed by Lectio Divina

10.00 pm Evening concludes



A JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA).

If you are interested in becoming a Catholic or learning more about the Catholic faith then our next RCIA course begins on 11 September.

Meetings are held weekly on Thursday evenings.

If you would like any more information about the course, please contact us on: faithhub.28@gmail.com.

SAINTS OF SOUTHWARK

This booklet, commissioned for the Jubilee of Hope 2025 suggests places to visit on pilgrimage across the Archdiocese of Southwark. All the places written about are associated with one of more of our local saints. Some of the churches are close to Beckenham and many can be reached by public transport. St Edmund's has its own page too!

It is an easy read and well worth £3.50 from the church shop.

A MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP JOHN WILSON 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION

All are welcome to join Archbishop John at a Mass of Thanksgiving for this special occasion at St George's Cathedral on Friday 25 July at 7.00 pm followed by a reception at Amigo Hall.

Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.

The retiring collection at Masses over the weekend 28th/29th June will be for Peter's Pence. The Peter's Pence collection aims to:

- Support the Holy Father's mission, which extends throughout the entire world, from the proclamation of the Gospel to the promotion of integral human development, education, peace, and brotherhood among peoples.
- Support numerous charitable works in aid of people and families in difficulty, populations afflicted by natural disasters and wars, or those in need of humanitarian assistance or support for development.

A MESSAGE FROM SR REENA

We, the Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver would like to express our gratitude to all our parishioners, for supporting us to make the fundraising event of Curry Afternoon successful. We are happy to inform you all that we have raised **£4505.66** for this event. With grateful hearts we thank you each and every one for your wonderful support and prayers.

Sr Reena

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a celebration for St Faustina's birthday at Aylesford Priory on Bank Holiday Monday 25 August, from 10:30 am to 4.00 pm. The reflection day will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration, Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Call Millie on 0795 759 4646 for more information. There will be a coach from Victoria.

WALK THE AUGUSTINE CAMINO FOR MARY'S MEALS

1 September – 8 September

Join us for the whole pilgrimage or walk with us for a day

During this Jubilee Year we would be delighted if you joined us as Pilgrims of Hope on some or all of the Augustine Camino, starting at Rochester Cathedral, finishing at the Shrine of St Augustine in Ramsgate. The pilgrimage will take us to four of the designated Jubilee churches and shrines in Southwark Archdiocese:

The Friars, Aylesford

St Jude's Shrine, Faversham

St Thomas of Canterbury, Canterbury

St Augustine's Shrine, Ramsgate

To book your place, or to ask any questions, please contact Roy Peachey, the Mary's Meals Supporter Engagement Officer for Kent, Surrey, Sussex and South London, on 07593 447297 or

roy.peachey@marysmeals.org.uk

FAREWELL CELEBRATION

Deacon Ray, his wife Annie and their family will be leaving St. Edmund's parish in July and relocating to deepest, but not necessarily darkest Kent!

Ray and Annie have been active in this parish for many years in a variety of roles too numerous to mention here, but really contributing to the life of our parish.

We will miss them both greatly and thank them for all their hard work and dedication. Ray will deacon his last Mass at St Edmund's at the 9.30 am Mass on 13 July.

After that Mass we would like as many people as possible to join us in the Hall for a reception and farewell.

Discover Local Art at the Beckenham SVP Exhibition!

The Beckenham SVP conference is excited to host an exhibition of art at the **St Edmund's Hall on Saturday, 5th July at 3:00pm**.

Art teacher Lucia Boaghe will be displaying some of her local artists' work for you to browse while you enjoy a cup of tea and a slice of cake. Some of the paintings will be for sale and entrance is free. Feeling creative? Lucia will be on hand to guide you if you'd like to try your hand at drawing!

MASSES

Sun 29 June	Sts Peter & Paul
6.00 pm VIGIL	Vincenzo Collonese RIP
8.00 am	Sandra Baron RIP
9.30 am	Pro populo
11.00 am	Rodolfo Cabilin, Edgardo Magbulsa RIP & dec'd family members
5.30 pm	Johann Piatek RIP
Mon 30 June	Feria
10.00 am	Paul Booth RIP
Tues 1 July	Feria (St Oliver Plunket)
10.00 am	Pat & John McAvoy RIP
Wed 2 July	Feria
10.00 am	Fabiola Zorilla Corrigan RIP (b'day)
7.30 pm	Mass in Hall
Thurs 3 July	St Thomas, Apostle
10.00 am	Hazel Teresa Friend-Pereira RIP
6.00 pm CLAVER	No Adoration
Friday 4 July	Feria (St Elizabeth of Portugal)
10.00 am	NO MASS
6.30 pm	Rosary & confession
7.00 pm	Jubilee Mass
	Ints of Bridie Carroll
Sat 5 July	Feria
10.00 am	Ints of the Claver Sisters on feast of Mother Foundress Bl Mary Theresa Ledochowska
6.00 pm VIGIL	John Sharpe RIP
Sun 6 July	Fourteenth Sunday
8.00 am	For the people
9.30 am	Barry Marchant RIP
FAMILY MASS	In thanksgiving – the Ekong Family
11.00 am	For Maks on his birthday
5.30 pm	

Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm, and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after morning Mass from Monday to Saturday, unless otherwise announced.

We pray for all who have died: Margaret Paes, Joan Taylor.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Norah Leigh, Eileen Graves, Tommy Ruddy, Sarah Bamford, Arthur Donnelly, John McAvoy, Peter Matthewman, Marie Denny, Joseph Coakely, Brian Coakley, Barry Marchant, Patricia Sooden, James Hannan, Johnny Lobo, Sarah Kabanda, Josephine Bogue, Ramsam Candasamy, Michael furlong, Mary 'Maureen' Wiggins.

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DIARY

July

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December

Sat 6	Christmas Fair
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Meditation every Monday in the Hall from 5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of each month and bank holidays.

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Account name: RCAS Beckenham

Sort Code: 60 02 12

Acc No: 14282887

Link to set up a regular donation through ChurchSuite:

<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/donate/>

75TH
ANNIVERSARY OF
THE
CONSECRATION OF
ST EDMUND'S

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Website: www.saintedmunds.net

Parish Office - Phone: 020 8650 0970 - Email: beckenham@rcaos.org.uk

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk

Fr John Olaniran - johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk (currently at St Anthony of Padua)

Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Séan Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Ray Williamson - raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk

Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915

Sunday 22 June 2025

Yr C



NO RETIRING COLLECTION

REFURBISHMENT OF THE LADY CHAPEL

Fr Steve recently announced that, as a lasting mark of St Edmund's 75th anniversary, he would like the Lady Chapel to be brought back into use. It needs some re-modelling before this can happen and anyone who is interested is invited to come to the Lady Chapel this Tuesday evening **June 24 at 7.00 pm** to give their ideas and discuss what could be done. It is hoped that we could form a team to take this work forward.



AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM CAFOD

MASS LOBBY IN WESTMINSTER WEDNESDAY 9 JULY

Will you join us in the 'Act Now, Change Forever' mass lobby of Parliament on Wednesday 9 July 2025 along with thousands of people from across the country?

Register your interest now and we'll keep you updated as plans develop. This link will take you to The Climate Coalition website, as you need to be registered officially to meet your MP. The Climate Coalition will send you logistical information about the lobby, but your details will not be shared and you won't receive emails from The Climate Coalition after the lobby itself.

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Ray and Annie have been active in this parish for many years in a variety of roles too numerous to mention here, but really contributing to the life of our parish.

We will miss them both greatly and thank them for all their hard work and dedication. Ray will deacon his last Mass at St Edmund's at the 9.30 am Mass on 13 July.

After that Mass we would like as many people as possible to join us in the Hall for a reception and farewell.

If you would like more information about this celebration, or to offer help, then please contact Cathy on cathpaints2@msn.com.

A MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP JOHN WILSON

I was unable to celebrate my Silver Jubilee of Ordination publicly due to the Covid restrictions in place at the time. This year marks the 30th Anniversary of my Ordination to the Priesthood, and I would like to warmly invite you, my dear brothers, along with the religious and consecrated, and lay faithful of the Archdiocese, to join me for a **Mass of Thanksgiving** at St George's Cathedral on **Friday 25 July at 7pm**, followed by a Reception in Amigo Hall.

Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.

300 CLUB

£100 Laurie Alagar
£50: Brendan Earley
£25 Sofia Dowling

Two of this month's winners are the grandchildren of parishioners.

Being a member of the 300 Club helps not only St Edmund's but your family too.

The Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency is seeking feedback from anyone who may have information regarding the safeguarding function in Southwark Archdiocese. Please follow the links below if you wish to contribute. Thank you

[Do you have information to help our safeguarding inspection in Southwark?](#)

[Survivors' Work With Us](#)

MASS AND READINGS

Many parishioners already use the Universalis website to access the daily Mass readings. There is also a Universalis app for iPhone/iPad and Android, which gives all the readings for each day and a lot more besides. Take a look at:

<https://www.universalis.com/n-apps.htm>

If you have been prescribed medication to be taken in the morning with food it is quite acceptable for you to take this and then receive communion.

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST MEETING

Wednesday 25 June at 7.45 pm

7.45 pm. Praise and Worship

8.00 pm. Holy Mass

Celebrant Fr Kenneth Iwunna
(St Saviours, Lewisham)

Followed by Adoration before the
Blessed Sacrament and healing
ministry.

10.00pm. Evening concludes.



On the Feast of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ [Corpus Christi], Saturday 21/ Sunday 22 June, all Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist are asked to renew their commitment to this ministry at the Mass they attend.

NEXT SATURDAY



A JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA).



If you are interested in becoming a Catholic or learning more about the Catholic faith then our next RCIA course begins on 11 September.

Meetings are held weekly on Thursday evenings.

If you would like any more information about this, please contact us on:

faithhub.28@gmail.com.

Phishing emails (scams). Please be aware of phishing emails – which are an attempt to scam someone using a well-known name, such as an organisation or **even a parish priest.**

- Legitimate emails from parish priests will **only** come from an email with an **@rcaos.org.uk** email address
- Please **always** check the sender's email address, and not just the name.

AGENCY FOR EVANGELISATION AND CATECHESIS

Every parishioner, as well as teachers and parents in our schools, has free and unlimited access to the workshops created by the world-renowned Catechetical Institute.

From Scripture to parenting workshops, to catechetical training and mentoring, there is something for everyone.

For information on how to register your free account visit:

<https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/franciscan>

EASYFUNDRAISING

Thank you to everyone who is supporting us on #easyfundraising. If you've not signed up yet, please join today and you can raise free donations for St Edmund's every time you shop online. Over 8,000 retailers like eBay: Argos, M&S, John Lewis, Etsy, Tesco and Just Eat will donate at no extra cost to you.

Please sign up today by going to:

<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/stecb/VYD94V/c2s/FZ9Up2Ac/CE947/facebook/>

CONFIRMATION MASS

Last Friday saw the parish celebrate a wonderful Confirmation Mass for over 50 of our young parishioners who had completed a preparation course led by Ticy Colling, Ruth McConkey and Deacon Ray.

Our celebrant was Canon Victor Darlington who is the Episcopal Vicar for the South East.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the preparations for this Mass.

WALK THE AUGUSTINE CAMINO FOR MARY'S MEALS

1 September – 8 September

Join us for the whole pilgrimage or walk with us for a day

During this Jubilee Year we would be delighted if you joined us as Pilgrims of Hope on some or all of the Augustine Camino, starting at Rochester Cathedral, finishing at the Shrine of St Augustine in Ramsgate. The pilgrimage will take us to four of the designated Jubilee churches and shrines in Southwark Archdiocese:

The Friars, Aylesford

St Jude's Shrine, Faversham

St Thomas of Canterbury, Canterbury

St Augustine's Shrine, Ramsgate

To book your place, or to ask any questions, please contact Roy Peachey, the Mary's Meals Supporter Engagement Officer for Kent, Surrey, Sussex and South London, on 07593 447297 or

roy.peachey@marysmeals.org.uk

Summertime 2025

6 – 9 August:

Altar Servers Trip to
Westminster Pastoral Centre
£189. For ages 11-16

This is a fun few days for altar servers and those who regularly attend Mass.

This is an event that has run for more than 20 years. it is a few days for deepening one's Catholic faith in a great social atmosphere, including football, sports and a visit to Thorpe Park.

For more details contact Fr. Stephen Boyle, chaplain to the Guild of St. Stephen, Dartford@rcaos.org.uk, Tel:01322 220 075.

Discover Local Art at the Beckenham SVP Exhibition!

The Beckenham SVP conference is excited to host an exhibition of art at the **St Edmund's Hall** on Saturday, 5th July at 3:00pm.

Art teacher Lucia Boaghe will be displaying some of her local artists' work for you to browse while you enjoy a cup of tea and a slice of cake. Some of the paintings will be for sale and entrance is free. Feeling creative? Lucia will be on hand to guide you if you'd like to try your hand at drawing!

MASSES

Sun 22 June	Corpus Christi
Renewal of commitment for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	
6.00 pm VIGIL	The soul of Margo Brady RIP
8.00 am	Wellbeing of Ray & Louise Watson
9.30 am	Wellbeing of Ndidi
11.00 am	Catherine Waters RIP (b'day anniv)
5.30 pm	Johanna Pauline Piatek RIP
Mon 23 June	Feria (St Etheldreda)
10.00 am	Ted Billy RIP (1st anniv)
Tues 24 June	The Nativity of St John the Baptist
10.00 am	Wellbeing of Catherine May
Wed 25 June	Feria
10.00 am	Wellbeing of Chibuike
	No Adoration
7.30 pm	Mass in Hall
Thurs 26 June	Feria
10.00 am	Tony Leonard RIP
6.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration

Friday 27 June	The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
10.00 am	Janet Maureen Dunn Brown RIP and dec'd family members
Sat 28 June	
	The Immaculate Heart of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary
10.00 am	Antonio Cappa RIP
6.00 pm VIGIL	Vincenzo Collonnese RIP
Sun 30 June	Sts Peter & Paul
8.00 am	Sandra Baron RIP
9.30 am	Pro populo
11.00 am	Rodolfo Cabilin, Edgardo Magbulsa RIP & dec'd family members
5.30 pm	Johann Piatek RIP

Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm, and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after morning Mass from Monday to Saturday, unless otherwise announced.

All Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are invited to renew their commitment to this ministry at Masses this weekend, the feast of Corpus Christi.

We pray for all who have died: Margaret Paes, Sandy Baron, Joan Taylor.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Sr Ann Byrne, Michael O'Brien, Honoria Johnson, Canon Patrick Pearson, William Foster, Licia de Fabiani, June Singleton, Gerard Belfourd, Mary Goulding, Margaret Reilly, Bessie Boudville.

We pray for those who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Hedwig Harper, Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woppard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna Sookram, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Susan McWilliams, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Paul, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Jessica Ram, Zygmunt Sobelewski, James Creedon, Alan Guest, Paul Catchpole.

DIARY

June

Tues 24 Lady Chapel refurb - 7.00 pm

July

Wed 9 Requiem of Margaret Paes at 11.30 am (Margaret was the mother of Rose Remedios)

December

Sat 6 Christmas Fair

75 YEARS

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from 5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of each month and bank holidays.

Please respect the need to arrive promptly and

Bank details to set up a regular standing order:

Account name: RCAS Beckenham

Sort Code: 60 02 12

Acc No: 14282887

Link to set up a regular donation through ChurchSuite:

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CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Website: www.saintedmunds.net

Parish Office - Phone: 020 8650 0970 - Email: beckenham@rcaos.org.uk

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk

Fr John Olaniran - johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk (currently at St Anthony of Padua)

Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Séan Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Ray Williamson - raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk

Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver 020 8313 3915

Sunday 15 June 2025

Yr C



Retiring collection is for
Day for Life

COME HOLY SPIRIT

Last Saturday some of you took part in the Jubilee Day at Aylesford, and, judging by the positive and joyful feedback I've been receiving it seems that it was great success. I was disappointed at not being able to join you on such a wonderful occasion but nonetheless much buoyed by your reaction.

For anyone who would like to relive the experience or join in it for the first time, there will be a showing of Archbishop John's homily and prayer in the parish hall this Wednesday after the 8.00 pm Mass. I look forward to seeing you there.

On a lighter note, I was delighted to hear you were saved from being drenched throughout the main part of the day. Bearing in mind the forecast for Saturday, it was something of a miracle.

For now, I leave you with part of the Archbishop's prayer which I urge you all to take to your hearts.

Come Holy Spirit, Come fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and we will be created and you will renew the face of the earth, the face of our Archdiocese, the face of our parishes and schools. Renew the face of our hearts.

Come Holy Spirit.

Come Holy Spirit.

Come Holy Spirit.



BISHOP CHALLONER SCHOOL

Many of you will have heard by now that Bishop Challoner School announced this week that it will cease to operate at the end of the summer term, on 4 July.

Their official statement can be read at:

<https://www.bishopchallonerschool.com/news-and-events/latest-news/bishop-challoner-school-statement>

Please keep all those connected with the school in your prayers at this difficult time - pupils and their parents, the teachers and support staff and the many others who support the functioning of this school which was founded by Fr Patrick Byrne, the parish priest of St Edmunds in May 1950.

Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.

Having had one leg attended to, Fr Steve will have a procedure on the other on 19 June. As before he has been told he cannot stand to celebrate Mass for two weeks.

Fr Steve has arranged 'cover' for the Sunday Masses in the church, but with many priests away for their summer break he has reluctantly decided that our Family Mass in the Hall will have to be suspended until we are up to full strength.

The next Family Mass will be in church on Sunday 6 July.



Aid to the
Church in Need

ACN UNITED KINGDOM

Last weekend we welcomed Patricia Hutton to speak about the work of the ACN. She also brought some of their beautiful gifts for you to buy.

The collection and the sale of these items raised over £2400 plus some Gift aid. This is a wonderful result and the ACN are delighted.

There is a thank you letter in the porch.

STELLA MARIS

Online webinar being run by Stella Maris on Thursday 19 June from 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm.

You will hear about the work that Stella Maris has been doing with seafarers and fishers over the past year or so, including the use of the funds kindly donated on Sea Sunday last year.

To attend this webinar, please sign up at: www.stellamaris.org.uk/thankyouwebinar



CURRY AFTERNOON

A fund raising event to purchase two motorcycles for the pastoral and social activities of the

Sisters of St. Paul de Chartres, in the Diocese of Kontum, Vietnam.

21 June

1.00 pm to 4.00 pm
at the Claver Convent
89 Shortlands Road, Bromley
BR2 0JL

Come with family and friends and enjoy a fun afternoon.

Tickets will be on sale after all Masses this weekend and are also available from the Parish Office

ST MARK'S. WEST WICKHAM

Fr Ashley has asked us to let you know that there will not be a Mass at St Mark's on Tuesday evening, 17 June.

STOP ASSISTED SUICIDE SIGN THE LOCAL PETITION

Only 28 MPs need to change their minds to defeat the Leadbeater Assisted Suicide Bill on Friday 20 June – several already have. Sign the petition to your local MP to stop the Bill!

Please take action now and sign this petition to your local MP:
www.righttolife.org.uk/petitions - it takes just 30 seconds!

If you have been prescribed medication to be taken in the morning with food it is quite acceptable for you to take this and then receive communion.

SECOND COLLECTION – DAY FOR LIFE

This collection is dedicated to celebrating the Sacredness of Life. This provides funding for the Anscombe Bioethics Centre and to assist in other life related activities supported by the church, usually by means of grants made to support Catholic charities working in the particular field determined by the theme of the year.

BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS

St George's Cathedral will be visited by a relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis.

On Thursday 26 June there will be an evening of adoration and veneration of the relic for young adults.

On Friday 27 June, Archbishop John will preside at the 6.00 pm Solemn Mass of the Sacred Heart, which will include veneration of the relic.

On Saturday 28 June, there will be a "morning with Carlo Acutis", which will include Mass, adoration, rosary and a talk on the relic.

An exhibition will also be on display at the Cathedral from 19 June to 7 July.

Visit: stgeorgescathedral.org.uk for more information.

CURVED PEWS IN THE LADY CHAPEL

Two parishioners have been in touch with us about the history of these pews. Thank you so much.

The book, "The Mass in my Life," by Tom Caluori from the Light of Christ Prayer Meeting is available from the parish shop or at the prayer meeting on Wednesday. Price £3.50

WALK THE AUGUSTINE CAMINO FOR MARY'S MEALS

1 September – 8 September

Join us for the whole pilgrimage or
walk with us for a day

During this Jubilee Year we would be delighted if you joined us as Pilgrims of Hope on some or all of the Augustine Camino, starting at Rochester Cathedral, finishing at the Shrine of St Augustine in Ramsgate. The pilgrimage will take us to four of the designated Jubilee churches and shrines in Southwark Archdiocese:

The Friars, Aylesford

St Jude's Shrine, Faversham

St Thomas of Canterbury, Canterbury

St Augustine's Shrine, Ramsgate

To book your place, or to ask any questions, please contact Roy Peachey, the Mary's Meals Supporter Engagement Officer for Kent, Surrey, Sussex and South London, on 07593 447297 or

roy.peachey@marysmeals.org.uk

PILGRIMAGE TO PENTECOST

There will be a conclusion and sending out of all who have been on our Pilgrimage to Pentecost over the past few weeks, next Wednesday in the Hall. It will also be a celebration of the Aylesford day held for the Archdiocese on the eve of Pentecost.

Whether you were on our coach or couldn't be there, you are invited to hear and experience Archbishop John's homily at the Pentecost Mass and his prayer inviting us to receive the Holy Spirit afresh.

The evening (18 June) will begin with praise and worship at 7.45 pm, followed by Mass at 8.00 pm led by Fr Uduak Abara the parish priest at The Annunciation and St Augustine, Beckenham Hill.

Archbishop John's homily and prayer from Aylesford will be screened straight afterwards so once again we can receive the Holy Spirit so as to be a family of missionary disciples.

The evening will conclude at 9.30 pm with refreshments.

Discover Local Art at the Beckenham SVP Exhibition!

The Beckenham SVP conference is excited to host an exhibition of art at the **St Edmund's Hall on Saturday, 5th July at 3:00pm**.

Art teacher Lucia Boaghe will be displaying some of her local artists' work for you to browse while you enjoy a cup of tea and a slice of cake. Some of the paintings will be for sale and entrance is free. Feeling creative? Lucia will be on hand to guide you if you'd like to try your hand at drawing!

MASSES

	The Most Holy Trinity
6.00 pm VIGIL	James Dempsey RIP
8.00 am	Keith Kench RIP
9.30 am	Henzert Wallace RIP
11.00 am	For the intentions of the Neophytes
5.30 pm	Eddie Dowling RIP
Mon 16 June	Feria (St Richard of Chichester)
10.00 am	Audrey Brown RIP
Tues 17 June	Feria
10.00 am	Brenda Lee RIP
	No Adoration
Wed 18 June	Feria
10.00 am	Neil McNamara
	No Adoration
7.30 pm	Mass in Hall
Thurs 19 June	St John Rigby, Martyr
10.00 am	With grateful thanks to all parishioners from Cathy May
12.00 pm	Requiem Mass for baby Arthur Gregory
6.00 pm	CLAVER Adoration
Friday 20 June	St Alban, Martyr
10.00 am	Stan Ziolek RIP (19th anniv)
Sat 21 June	St Aloysius Gonzaga
10.00 am	Roberta Coatti RIP
6.00 pm VIGIL	The soul of Margo Brady RIP
Sun 22 June	Corpus Christi
8.00 am	Wellbeing of Ray & Louise Watson
9.30 am	Wellbeing of Ndidi
11.00 am	Catherine Waters RIP (b'day anniv)
5.30 pm	Johanna Pauline Piatek RIP

Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm, and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after morning Mass from Monday to Saturday, unless otherwise announced.

All Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are invited to renew their commitment to this ministry at all Masses on the feast of Corpus Christi.

OFFERTORY WEEK ENDING 8.6.25	
Plate Collection	983.21
Contactless	128.00
Bank Standing Order	1889.50
Church Suite Regular Giving	1459.50
TOTAL	4460.21

We pray for all who have died: Baby Arthur Gregory, Margaret Paes, Sandy Baron.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Edna Cleary, Paddy Hayes, Rosalind Bennett, Valerie Parr, Cardinal Basil Hume, Cardinal Thomas Winning, Eddie Dowling, Rose Medley, Marie Joceline Cornwall, Maria, Ariyaratnam, Canon John Naughton, Robert Fry, Michael McCarthy, Giovanni Pensa, baby Lily Chui, Stan Ziolek, Sadie Cummins, Sophie Peter, Carol Anaele, Patricia James, Clifford Addems, Adele Powell.

We pray for those who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Hedwig Harper, Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woppard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna Sookram, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Susan McWilliams, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Paul, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Jessica Ram, Zygmunt Sobelewski, James Creedon, Alan Guest, Paul Catchpole.

DIARY

June

Thu 19 Requiem for baby Arthur Gregory
Sat 21 Claver Sisters Curry Afternoon

July

Wed 9 Requiem of Margaret Paes at 11.30 am
(Margaret was the mother of Rose Remedios)

December

Sat 6 Christmas Fair

75 YEARS

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from 5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of each month and bank holidays.

Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence

Bank details to set up a regular standing order:

Account name: RCAS Beckenham

Sort Code: 60 02 12

Acc No: 14282887

Link to set up a regular donation through ChurchSuite:

<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/donate/>